

THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

XXVII.]

FOR JANUARY, 1798.

[VOL. IV.

A few days since was published (price One Shilling) the SUPPLEMENTARY NUMBER, completing the FOURTH VOLUME of this Work. The Articles contained in it are conceived to be highly valuable and interesting; among them are the following:---1. The half yearly Retrospect of the State and Progress of Domestic Literature.---2. A curious Translation from Plato, by Mr. TAYLOR, on the Atlantic History and on the State of Athens, nine thousand Years prior to Solon, which has never before appeared in any modern Language;---3. Experiments on Prussian Blue, by M. PROUST;---4. Mr. RICHTER on necessary Connection:---5. On Exchanges;---6. Proportion of Light from Combustible Bodies, by J. H. HASSENFRATZ;---7. LALANDE's History of Astronomy for 1796;---8. The Medals of the French Revolution, &c.---9. Description of the Marine School at Amsterdam;---10. Lives of Vandermonde and Flandrin;---11. Account of the Person who committed Suicide at Bristol;---12. Conclusion of Mathematical Questions, &c. &c. With the Title and Indexes to the Volume.

The four Volumes may now therefore be had complete, of every Bookseller, price One Pound Nine Shillings, neatly half bound.

For the Monthly Magazine.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE WEATHER IN LONDON IN 1797.

THE thermometer, hung out of the window of a room in the first floor, with a north-west exposure, gave the following averages at nine in the morning:

January $38\frac{1}{4}$	July 66
February $35\frac{1}{2}$	August $63\frac{1}{3}$
March $39\frac{1}{3}$	September $56\frac{6}{10}$
April $48\frac{1}{3}$	October $48\frac{1}{2}$
May $52\frac{2}{3}$	November $41\frac{4}{5}$
June 59	December $42\frac{1}{2}$
Average of the year, $49\frac{1}{2}$	

That of the year 1796 was $49\frac{7}{12}$: so that the difference of heat in the two years consisted almost solely in the distribution, not in the sum. In 1796, the first months were warmer, the middle of summer cooler, and the end of the year more frosty, than in 1797. With respect to heat, the year 1797 offers little remarkable, except that February was colder than March, almost as cold as January; and that December was warmer than November. The excess of July above June is also somewhat uncommon. The wetness of 1797 has been the most observable circumstance attending it, in which it has surpassed all the years for a considerable period. As no actual measurement of rain has been taken by the present writer, he can only give the loose result of his daily observations on the state of the weather. From these it appears, that the four first months of the year were by no means unusually wet. February, on the contrary, was uncommonly dry; but fog was considerably prevalent in it and the other cold months.

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May began with much rain; but became fine, with a high degree of heat, in its advance; and strong lightning was an earlier occurrence than usual in it. June was very variable: it had a sufficient number of fine days to engage the farmer in cutting down all the grass, which the preceding month had brought to unusual rankness of growth, but had also such alterations of heavy rain, that hay-making was a very difficult and uncertain business. July had great heats and some tremendous thunder: it was, on the whole, a tolerably fair month; but was liable to occasional storms of wind and rain, which did much damage in beating down the corn, which from the length and thickness of its stalk, was generally unable to recover itself. August afforded very unfavourable weather for getting in the harvest. Its nights were for the most part rainy, and prevented the benefit of many drying days. September began pretty fair, but ended rainy. One perfectly fair week in the beginning of October was the whole of the usual Michaelmas summer. The rest of the month was warm, and variable. Cold and wet, and warm and wet, were the respective characters of November and December, with occasional tempestuous weather, fog, and an uncommon moisture in the atmosphere, even when it did not rain. The prevalent winds in the whole latter part of the year were from the south and west quarters. If a northerly wind one day gave an appearance of the setting in of winter, a change on the next, raised the temperature of the air to autumnal warmth, and covered

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vered the sky with clouds. The year closed with remarkable mildness, and winter could not be said yet to have commenced its reign. J. A.

For the Monthly Magazine.

AVERAGE OF THE GREATEST HEAT OF THE YEAR 1797. THE OBSERVATIONS BEING TAKEN AT TWO O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON, AT NORWICH. The Thermometer situated the same as last Year.

Month.	Average.	Coldest Days.	Hottest Days.
Jan.	41 $\frac{1}{2}$	9th at 32°	20th at 49 $\frac{1}{2}$
Feb.	43 $\frac{1}{2}$	8th 35	2d 51
March	45	—Some observations being lost, not exactly known.	
April	49 $\frac{1}{2}$	6th 42	25th 60
May	57 $\frac{1}{2}$	10th 45	25th 70 $\frac{1}{2}$
June	59 $\frac{1}{2}$	3d 50	19 & 28 65
July	68 $\frac{1}{2}$	3d 58	17th 81
August	64 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 & 23 60	8th 71
Septem.	59 $\frac{1}{2}$	26th 56	1st 67
October	51 $\frac{1}{2}$	26th 43	1st to 5th 59
Novem.	45 $\frac{1}{2}$	24th 35	6, 7, & 8 53
Decem.	43 $\frac{1}{2}$	11th 37	17 & 19 51

Average of the year, 52 $\frac{1}{2}$

Hottest day, July 17, at 81° wind S. W.

Coldest day, Jan. 9 - 32 - - N. E.

From a comparison of the above with the observations inserted in the Monthly Magazine for Jan. 1797, it appears, that, notwithstanding a great variation in particular months, the average of the whole year 1797 differs but 1° from that of 1796, which was 52 $\frac{1}{4}$. The months, January, April, June, August, September, were colder in 1797 than in the year preceding; the other months were hotter in a greater or less degree. July 17th, 1797, was 6° higher than July 15th, 1796, but the thermometer never sunk so low as in some of the days preceding the Christmas of 1796.

For the Monthly Magazine.

DR. RENNELL having seen in the Monthly Magazine, a public mention of a report of his being concerned in *the Pursuits of Literature*, is perfectly convinced that the Editors will have the justice to contradict, from him, in the most distinct pointed manner, so groundless and injurious a report. In no part of that production had Dr. Rennell the most distant co-operation. Satirical writing of every kind, particularly of an *anonymous* nature, is perfectly alien to his habits and occupations.

Dr. RENNELL will consider the insertion of this declaration in their next Magazine as a considerable obligation conferred upon him by the Editors.

London, Dec. 15, 1797.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

IT is well known that many medical men have been lately engaged in making experiments to ascertain whether, or not, the *venereal disease*, in all its complicated forms, can be radically cured by medicines containing a large proportion of oxygen, or vital air; and particularly by means of the nitrous acid and oxygenated muriate of pot-ash.

The very respectable testimonies which have already appeared in favour of these remedies, and the mild as well as expeditious manner in which they are said to operate, have induced me to give them a fair and unprejudiced trial, in a great variety of cases; and also to solicit the communications of other gentlemen in London, who have had opportunities of exhibiting them: but I am sorry to observe, that our experience obliges me to differ in opinion from those physicians and surgeons who have raised our expectations on this subject.

This diversity of opinion being founded on actual observation, and not on any preconceived notions, has emboldened me to use the freedom of circulating a printed letter, to recommend the trial of the new medicines in advanced stages of the disease; *where well marked blotches, nodes, ulcerated fauces, ozæna, and other characteristic symptoms of a genuine syphilis appear*: since, in these cases only can we be fully assured that the syphilitic poison exists in the constitution, and indubitably requires the administration of an anti-venereal medicine.

The most judicious practitioners, and those of the largest experience, are ready to confess, that although it be usually advisable to give mercury in recent stages of the venereal disease, with a view to prevent the farther progress of the symptoms, or the occurrence of a confirmed lues venerea, yet, in very many such instances, the patients would escape and recover their health, by a proper plan of treatment, without the use of mercury: and, notwithstanding this fact may be denied by some speculative persons, it is too well authenticated for us to rest the proof of an anti-venereal remedy *solely*, or *even chiefly*, on its efficacy to remove the primary symptoms. All deductions from such premises must, therefore, be extremely fallacious and questionable.

I have taken the liberty to trouble you with these cursory hints, for the attention of medical men in the country, in hopes that you will favour me by inserting them

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in your Magazine: and I beg leave, at the same time, to suggest, that it is my intention to publish the result of my experiments and enquiries, (under the title of "*Critical Remarks on the Venereal Disease*,") together with such observations and cases as I may be honoured with from other practitioners.

Great Russell-Street,
Bloomsbury-Square.

W. BLAIR

Jan. 22, 1798.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

A LATE publication, entitled *Proofs of a Conspiracy, &c.* by Professor ROBISON; has excited my great surprize; and I am at a loss to conceive how circumstances, long ago buried in oblivion, could, without making any farther enquiry, be represented as still existing, by the author of a book, which tends to stigmatize some of the most respectable characters in Germany. From the beginning of 1790, EVERY CONCERN OF THE ILLUMINATI HAS CEASED, and no Lodge of Freemasons in Germany has, since that period, taken the least notice of them. Evident proofs of this assertion are to be found among the papers of Mr. Bode, late Privy Counsellor at Weimar, who was at the head of that Order in this part of Germany, and who died in 1794. After his death, all those papers were delivered up to the present DUKE of SAXE-GOTHA, who, on application, would, doubtless, permit the inspection of them. The league of Dr. Barth, known to Mr. Robison only from the *Annals of Gießen*, a very obscure periodical publication, was a phantom, which no sooner appeared, than it was laid and destroyed by Mr. Bode himself, who printed a pamphlet, entitled, *More Remarks than Text*, which soon opened the eyes of the public. This league, a poor financial scheme, was planned by a man of more genius than principle, but never carried into execution. This appears from the papers, written during the whole of the transaction, which being bequeathed to me by Mr. Bode, are now in my possession, and true transcripts of them may be obtained by any one, who wishes to receive them. Although I was not a member of that society, yet I was intimate with Mr. Bode, and present at his death; consequently I am enabled to vouch solemnly for the truth of the above; and to engage, that any person in Great Britain, who, being alarmed at the erroneous

statements contained in the book before-mentioned, may obtain the requisite information, by applying to me.

AUGUSTUS BOETTIGER,
Counsellor of the Upper Consistory,
and Provost of the College
Weimar, in Saxony, of Weimar.
Jan. 5, 1798.

For the Monthly Magazine.

D'ANVILLE, in his Geographical Memoir *L'Euphrate & le Tigre*, page 14, has indicated to the east of Roha, or Edessa, a tract of country, elevated and beautiful, which now bears the name of Eden. This district lies in the center of the lands included between the Tigris and the Euphrates. At its foot arises, on the eastern side, the river Mygdonius, on which are situate the towns of Nesibis and Sinjar; and on the western side, the river Chaboras, on which are situate the towns of Resain and Thallaba. These two rivers now unite, and fall into the Euphrates at Kerkisich; but neither of them appears to pursue its ancient course, the Mygdonius having originally flowed, amid the dry ravine called Tirtar, which meets the Tigris above Hatra; and the Chaboras amid the dry ravine called Sebaa, which meets the Euphrates below Osara.

What forbids our supposing this Eden to have been in the contemplation of the author of the second chapter of Genesis?

Dr. GEDDES, in his note on the passage (II. 14,) admits, that by Hiddekel is meant the Tigris, and by Perath the Euphrates: with the other two rivers only he is embarrassed, and at length fixes on the Araxes and the Oxus, which travel to the Caspian and Euxine seas.

The Phison, however, is said to bound the land of Havila, where there is gold. Now, a considerable stretch of the Mygdonius is yet called Al Havali, and thus retains obvious traces of the name and contiguity of that province, which may well have extended as far south as the mouth of the Zab, a stream celebrated for its gold.

Of the name Gihon, no traces are indeed to be detected along the banks of the Chaboras; but this river is said to have bounded the land of Cush. Now, the land of Cush (Genesis X. 7,) comprehended the five subdivisions or townships of Seba, Havilah, Sabtha, Raamah, and Sabthechah. Safa and Zabdicena, (or Gezirat) on the western bank of the Tigris, appear evidently to preserve the names of Sabthah and Sabthechah. Seba, with the prefix En,

En, or Ain, indicating fountains, may possibly have given origin to the name of Nefbis; but it is far more probable some deserted place contiguous to the dry ravine, yet called after it Sebaa. Havila was, no doubt, situate in the province, and on the river of the same name, and should be sought nearer to its mouth than to its head, because the names of rivers commonly ascend, being first imposed where they are most considerable. The name of Raamah may with faint probability be imagined in Aaraban, between Refain and Thallaba. If these indications be put together, it will follow that the land of Cush nearly answered to the modern province of Diarrabia, since it contained five of the cities therein situate: in a word, that it was the district comprehended between the Tigris and the Charboras; and consequently that the Chaboras is the Ghion which bounded the land of Cush.

The four rivers of Paradise appear then to have been the Euphrates, the Chaboras, the Mygdonius, and the Tigris.

It is strange, that the garden of Eden should not oftener be mentioned by the early writers of the Jews. Except in an indecisive passage of Deuteronomy, a book which seems to have been written during the captivity, (XXIX. 28) under Hoshea, no allusions to it occur, until about the period of the Babylonian conquest. Was the account at that time new to Jewish literature?

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

I AM much gratified, and much obliged, by the account Mrs. CATHARINE CAPPE has given in your Magazine for November, of the success that has attended a female benefit club; and I think those who founded or promoted such an institution, are entitled to public regard. I beg leave, through your Magazine, to throw out a hint or two, which, I humbly apprehend, might be improvements upon these excellent institutions. In the first place, I should recommend, that in such societies, on any female marrying, a small sum of sixpence per quarter, or whatever sum may be thought adequate, shall be paid, in addition to the former subscription, in order to raise a fund for allowing married women something in child-bed; suppose, ten shillings and sixpence for the month, and in case they are not fully recovered, two shillings per week during the remainder of their illness, unless such subsequent illness is amongst the number provided for by the rules.

I further beg leave to hint, that I think the reduction of the allowance to one shilling per week, if a member lies sick more than six months, seems withdrawing the aid when most needed, as it is probable the allowance of four shillings per week will not frequently support a sick person, and pay all expences of medicine and attendance; and if the extra expence is to be paid out of the necessaries of the sick person, is there not reason to fear such person may be left to great want, and one grand design of such institutions lost, viz. a support in old age or inability to labour. ---Several instances have lately been mentioned in the papers of different Friendly Societies supporting some of the aged and infirm members for several years.---But, although I take the liberty to give these hints, I do it with some degree of diffidence and great deference to those respectable characters who have instituted and promoted the Societies in question, who having made observations upon their effects, will better judge of the propriety of such regulation than I can do.

I beg leave to observe further, in addition to the hint I gave in your Magazine for September, that a complete trial of one of these societies could not be made in less than forty years, that my calculation went upon the ground of the allowance not being lessened in so great a proportion to a member, who might lie a long time sick, as is the case in the Berwick Society; nevertheless, I am still of opinion, that no society of the kind can have had a fair trial in less time, as many years must elapse, after such an institution is formed, before it can have any old members belonging to it, therefore not subject to those expences which fall most heavy on the funds of the society. I am, Sir, your humble servant,
J. K.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

A Correspondent of your's, who subscribes himself "*A Sufferer by Forgery*," has expressed a wish to be informed, whether the Directors of the Bank of England have refused a plan for preventing the forgery of Bank notes; "a plan which would not only have rendered forgery more difficult than at present, but almost, if not altogether impossible, and of which the excellency was attested by all the principal artists in London?"

From the manner in which the question is put, I am led to suppose (though I cannot be certain) that your correspondent has heard something respecting the plan offered

offered to the Bank of England by a Mr. TILLOCK; at the rejection of which, by a Committee of Bank Directors, I was present, together with Messrs. BYRNE, FITLER, LOWRY, and SHARP. That it was our unanimous opinion, as well as the opinion of Mr. BARTOLOZZI, (who was prevented by indisposition from attending on the occasion) that the specimen produced by Mr. TILLOCK of a newly-invented art, was not copyable by any known art of engraving; and that the attempt toward imitating it produced by the Engraver to the Bank was very easy to be distinguished from its original, may be acceptable information to your correspondent, and perhaps not useless to the public.

To say that this invention would utterly prevent the possibility of forgeries on the Bank, would be hazarding a rash assertion: to determine that, if adopted, it would, by increasing the difficulty, diminish the number of forgeries, requires no hesitation, and very little eye-sight. That I mean to deny *that* little to the Directors of the Bank, *must not* be inferred, nor that I think they have shewn themselves less clear-sighted in this business than disinterested.

Irony apart, I should conceive it to be a point both of duty and honour, for the Bank Directors---not to tempt men to the commission of a capital crime, by authorising an easy mode of committing it---not themselves to sustain the losses arising from the frequent forgery of Bank-notes, ---not to adopt Mr. TILLOCK's plan for the prevention of forgery, if a better can be produced, but---to call forth the talents and ingenuity of the country in fair competition, by offering a handsome reward for the best practical means of preventing forgery on the Bank.

That a procedure to this effect, is a duty the Bank Directors owe to the public, your correspondent has sufficiently shewn; that it should be considered as a point of honour too, I think, is evident, when we recollect that honour due is, in all cases, proportionate to confidence reposed.

I am, Sir, your's, &c,

Queen Anne-street East, J. LANDSEER.
Dec. 20, 1797.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

DURING the parliamentary debates of last winter, relative to imposing an additional tax upon newspapers, it

was disputed by some of our state-orators, whether a newspaper was an article of *luxury* or *necessity*; but the Minister, who was more desirous to obtain an addition to the revenue, than to wait for the discussion of so intricate a question, hurried the business forwards, without allowing time to determine it. Perhaps, indeed, he might think that much was to be said on both sides; and that it was a matter of very little consequence to a mere financier whether it was determined one way or other. When, however, I look around me in this vast metropolis, and mix in the varied societies that are formed in it, I am clearly of opinion, that a newspaper ranks among the *necessaries* of life, and ranks so high, that, if we except the mere mechanical operations of eating and drinking, I scarcely know any thing that is so indispensable to the happiness of my fellow-citizens. As a question, "What news?" is second only to "How do you do?" and I am much mistaken if, on many occasions, it does not precede even now, and hereafter, in all probability, it will issue at the first opening of the lips.

It is, perhaps, impossible to prove the misery that would overshadow such a place as London, were there no newspapers published in it; but my imagination has sometimes suggested to me the horrid thought of a suspension of newspapers for only *one week*! Dreadful idea! Intellectual famine! What crowds of distressed human beings, hurrying from place to place, asking and beseeching one another, "for the love of mercy," to supply one little bit of intelligence, to cool the parched tongue of communication---one little accident to supply the repetition of diurnal morality---one anecdote, ever so meagre and barren, just to keep the life and soul of conversation together---or one *crim. con.* or even the least suspicion, hint, conjecture, or surmise, to employ the magnifying powers of imagination, and prevent the dreadful necessity of seeking for what we know we cannot find---resources within ourselves.

Such have sometimes been the horrid images which my imagination, probably disordered at the time, has suggested to me: but how faint is this expression of the workings of fancy; for sure I am, it hath not yet entered into the heart of man to form words capable of displaying the wretched state of our metropolis, were it to be afflicted with a cessation of news. Wisely, therefore, did our ancestors contrive, that, on our first entrance into daily life, we should have it in our power to de-

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your the newspaper and the breakfast at the same time; that in an hour when sleep has left a blank in our thoughts, and the memory of past events hath perished, a new world, or a world of news, should start up to sight, and set every spring of the mind in fresh motion. This I call winding up our curiosity for the day; by means of which operation, the machine goes regularly for the accustomed time. The invention of morning papers was of infinite importance; for morning was not the original time of publication; most of the old papers were published at noon, or in the evening, when they could be of use only to those persons who make a trade of politics. At that time they were not deemed of much use in families; but when *tea* was introduced, morning papers naturally followed, and the contents of many of them are now happily contrived to give a particular zest to the Indian luxury. The connection, indeed, betwixt a breakfast and a newspaper is indissoluble. We may hear news at any other time of the day; but how lame, how imperfect, how unsatisfactory, how deficient in all those little circumstances of detail and description, for which we are indebted to the abilities of editors and collectors of paragraphs. Insensible and ungrateful persons can only count the value of a blessing from the loss of it; but if ever the time comes that the propagation of news is suspended, they will learn to prize the abilities of those geniuses who furnish the news of the day with appropriate imagery; give a brilliancy to an accidental fire; break the neck of a bricklayer with grace; and even cloathe the gallows in heroics;---men, whose mere reports transcend even facts in point of entertainment; and whose hints and surmises are to the thirsty reader

—"Confirmations strong,
"As proofs of holy writ."

By means of morning papers, the inhabitants of the metropolis are put upon a footing of equality in point of information, which is not to be looked for in provincial towns, far less in villages, where perhaps the great Squire only receives a paper, the contents of which he doles out to his especial favourites. Yet it may be said, that this equality of information which prevails in the metropolis, can tend only to perfect silence, because no man possesses an overplus of news which he may communicate; and at first sight this would appear to be the case, but in fact it is quite otherwise; for al-

though one may not know more than another, he certainly may *conceive* more than another. It is a mistake to suppose that the intelligence in newspapers is to be understood in a literal sense, or that we are to be contented with what the editor pleases to tell us. For example, we read that "Yesterday was married at St. Dunstan's church, Mr. Joshua Tape, an eminent mercer, to Miss Polly Languish, of Mile-end." Were we to stop here, I question whether all the papers in London would furnish half an hour's conversation. But this is no barren text; it includes doctrines and inferences, which may branch out into as many heads as a sermon of the last century. Is it not necessary to ascertain what Mr. Tape's property is; how far he may be called an eminent mercer; when it is *well known* that he failed ten years ago, and paid only ten shillings in the pound; and how far he may be called a genteel man, when it is *well known* he stoops in the shoulders? It may be also necessary to determine whether he deserves the character of a polite shop-keeper, who, it is *well known*, refused to take back an article which a lady had kept only six months: and, above all, whether the man was not an arrant fool to marry Polly Languish, who, it is *well known*, had not a sixpence? Then, Sir, with respect to the lady, many important questions arise; as, first, how it can be possible any person can think her handsome, when it is *well known* she has no complexion, very bad staring eyes, appears to be crooked, and moreover, it is *strongly suspected*, is thirty-three, or thirty-two at least. Thus you see that the above paragraph is a full and rich fountain, sending forth waters, sweet and bitter, and quenching the talkative thirst of the whole parish of St. Dunstan's, and, probably, the hamlet of Mile-end.

Let us take another example:---"Yesterday Lady ----- was detected in an amour with Col. ----- His Lordship has sent her to her mother's, for the present, and is immediately to sue for a divorce." Now, Sir, will any lover of news stop here? Will this satisfy him? No. It is necessary to divide and subdivide this into an infinite series of lesser intelligences, all greatly contributing to a right understanding of the matter. On the one hand, his Lordship, it is *well known*, was old enough to be her father, and what could he expect? On the other hand, Lady -----, it is *well known*, was young enough to be his daughter, and wherein was she disappointed? Then it is highly

highly probable that he was the most indulgent husband in the world, and that she was the most unreasonable and disobedient wife. Or, should this not be the case, the reverse will exactly serve the same purpose; that is, gratify that insatiable desire for *news*, which is become as necessary as the food we eat, or the raiment we put on.

We constantly pray to be delivered "from battle, murder, and from sudden death;" (this, by the bye, seems an anti-climax, battle being the greatest calamity of the three; but let that pass) and yet, Mr. Editor, I know no three ingredients more necessary, nor, of late years, more frequent than these. Battles, indeed, from long habit, we read over with frigid indifference, and I must say, they are very dull and unentertaining. The other two, however, afford many comments, which greatly tend to promote conversation, because they come home to "men's business and bosoms." The death of one man in the streets, who thought himself a match for half a dozen armed robbers, is a topic of conversation for a month; but the prostration of ten thousand bodies on a field, to gratify the inexplicable schemes of contending courts, is the ephemera which cannot outlive the day.

Thus much for the *facts* recorded in our newspapers. Now, Sir, only consider what the case must be, if, after dwelling so long upon any important event handed to us at our breakfast-tables, and carried from thence about with us wherever we go throughout the day, as ammunition ready to shoot the monster, *silence*, and supply the deficiency, *thought*---if, I say, after all this, it should be next day contradicted by the same authority. This may appear somewhat embarrassing; but habit has reconciled us to this also. "We *always thought* there was something improbable in the story;" or, "we had *our suspicions*, yet did not chuse to communicate them;" or, "we were *very cautious* in giving full credit to the report, although, to be sure, it appeared to be *very well founded*, and every body must acknowledge it was remarkably *well told*." With this *ex post facto* sagacity, some continue to get out of the scrape pretty decently, while others, determined to support the dignity of first impressions, and studious to avoid the weather-cock variations of common changelings, are still firmly of opinion that there was *something in it*, and vote *hem. con.* "that there

is no scandalous story without some foundation."

I might now proceed to consider the *necessity* of newspapers, as supplying fund for political conversation; but as that subject would lead me to be more prolix than in duty bound, I shall adjourn the question *sine die*, and conclude with an humble hope that I have suggested enough to prove that newspapers are articles of absolute necessity, and of the "first requisition." I am, Sir, your's, &c.

RHAPSODICUS.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

IF success shall not betray you to relax your efforts, your Magazine seems likely to become the most excellent and the most generally acceptable *periodical miscellany* of the age. For this reason, and as those who have just begun to learn, are often the most eager to teach, I beg leave to trouble you, for the information of your readers, with a short account of Mr. ELKINGTON's *Mode of Draining*; with which I have had a recent opportunity to make myself acquainted.

There are but two ways in which *stagnant water* can be diffused over grounds, so as to reduce them into the state of *morasses*. It may proceed from the overflowing of adjacent rivers, or the collection of rain-water; or, it may bubble up incessantly from springs dispersed within the bounds of the morais.

In the former of these cases, the overflowing of adjacent rivers is to be prevented only by strong embankments; and any simple trench will easily carry away stagnant water, which has no interior source, and merely floats upon the surface.

In almost all lakes and morasses, numerous springs are dispersed within the compass of the lake or morais. These can never be exhausted. Very many morasses have therefore long baffled every endeavour to drain them effectually for cultivation. Trenches of almost every different depth, and in almost every different direction, have been tried, in vain, or at best, with very imperfect success. Vast tracts of morais, in England, in Scotland, and in Ireland, have been hopelessly abandoned to perpetual barrenness.

But, about the year 1764, Mr. Elkington, in an attempt to draw some part of the farm of Princethorpe, in the parish of Stretton, upon Dunsmore, in the county of Warwick, was accidentally led to ob-

serve

serve, that by commencing his drains from the different springs which continually poured forth their waters upon the ground, and by this means alone he could effectually accomplish his purpose. He had not even reflected upon the possibility of the moisture of morasses, arising from springs at a considerable depth beneath the surface, when, to his surprise, he happened to observe a column of water burst up with great force, by a hole which he casually made with an iron crow, within the bounds of his morass. The fact, although neither new nor strange, struck his mind as an extraordinary discovery. He soon after adopted the use of an *auger*, instead of an iron crow; and determined to make his morass perfectly dry for tillage, by detecting all the springs, and continually exhausting these by suitable drains. He quickly succeeded in making that particular field perfectly dry. The subsequent application of the same principle to all the other marshy parts of his farm, proved alike successful.

In consequence of the striking improvement thus effected upon his own grounds, Mr. Elkington was consulted and employed by his neighbours. He, in every instance, sought out the springs from which the stagnant water was supplied; wherever there was a declivity of the surface, endeavoured to detect the main-spring, on which, in every such case, there are usually various smaller springs dependant; still bored with the auger to discover springs of which he suspected the existence, although they were not quite apparent; commenced his drains from the respective springs; but, instead of cutting a drain, in every case, to the very level of a very deep spring, adopted the idea of preserving only an auger-hole perpendicular to the spring, as an outlet by which its waters might ascend into the drain, to be by it conveyed away. Continued experience gave him, at last, very great sagacity in detecting the existence of hidden springs, and extraordinary skill to discern the readiest means for draining off their waters. He learned to pay particular attention to the nature of the strata through which the water had to rise, and to adapt to it the construction of his drains. His fame as a *drainer* was extended his assistance was sought even from distant parts of the country. It decisively appeared, that barren morasses might, by his art, be converted into rich meadow and fertile arable fields; that *four*, wetish grounds, might, by the same means, be made suf-

ficiently dry and kindly; that an astonishing proportion of the lands of Great Britain and Ireland might be thus redeemed from infertility. Contriving to cover his drains, with only certain openings at proper distances, he thus prevented them from marring the beauty and equality of the fields. To collect water for the use of mills and canals; to draw off the water from mines and coal-pits, and for other useful purposes, may the same invention of Mr. Elkington's be likewise applied.

To reward this invention, and to purchase it for the use of the public, the Board of Agriculture obtained to Mr. Elkington a grant from Parliament, of a thousand pounds sterling. I am persuaded, that the beneficial effects of his discovery have already more than compensated this sum to the nation. I am, &c. *Kelfo, Dec. 21, 1797.* R. H.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

I Hope, that this letter may arrive time enough to answer its purpose. I cannot help considering myself as having been placed in a very ridiculous light, by the gentlemen who have remarked, answered, and rejoined concerning my monody on Chatterton. I have not seen the compositions of my competitors (unless indeed the exquisite poem of Warton's, entitled, "*The Suicide*," refer to this subject) but this I know, that my own is a very poor one. It was a school exercise, somewhat altered; and it would have been omitted in the last edition of my poems, but for the request of my friend, Mr. COTTLE, whose property those poems are. If it be not in your intention to exhibit my name on any future month, you will accept my best thanks, and not publish this letter. But if Crito and the Alphabet-men should continue to communicate on this subject, and you should think it proper, for reasons best known to yourself, to publish their communications, then I depend on your kindness for the insertion of my letter; by which, it is possible, those your correspondents may be induced to expend their remarks, whether panegyrical or vituperative, on nobler game than on a poem which was, in truth, the first effort of a young man, all whose poems a candid critic will only consider as first efforts.

Your's, with due respect,
Shrewsbury. S. T. COLERIDGE.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

THOUGH the fables of the ancients are, in their secret meaning, utility, and construction, the most beautiful and admirable pieces of composition which the mind of man is capable of framing, yet nothing has been so little understood, or so shamefully abused. Of the truth of this observation, the philosophic part of your readers will, I persuade myself, be fully convinced, by comparing the following explanations of some of these fables, with those given by the Abbé Banier, and other modern writers on mythology, in those ridiculous and contemptible publications called *Pantheons*.

That these moderns, indeed, should have grossly erred in their interpretation of ancient fables, is by no means wonderful, if we consider that they appear to have been ignorant that these fables were invented by theological poets*, and adopted by intellectual philosophers†; and, consequently, that their meaning can only be unfolded by recurring to the theology and intellectual philosophy of the ancients.

It is, indeed, easy for ingenious men to give an explanation of an ancient fable, which to the superficial observer shall appear to be the precise meaning which its inventor designed to convey, though it be in reality very far from the truth. This may be easily accounted for by considering, that all fables are images of truths, but those of the ancients of truths with which but few are acquainted. Hence, like pictures of unknown persons, they become the subjects of endless conjecture and absurd opinion, from the similitude which every one fancies he discovers in them to objects with which he has been for a long time familiar. He who understands the explanations given by the Platonic philosophers of these fables, will subscribe to the truth of this observation; as it is impossible that these interpretations could so wonderfully harmonize with the external or apparent meaning of the fables, without being the true explanations of their latent sense. Even Lord Bacon himself, though he saw enough to be convinced that these fables were replete with the highest wisdom of which he had any conception, yet was far from penetrating the profound meaning they contain. He has, indeed, done all in attempting to unfold them that

great genius, without the assistance of intellectual philosophy is able to effect: but the most piercing sagacity, the most brilliant wit, and the most exquisite subtilty of thought, without this assistance, are here of no avail.

This being premised, it will be necessary, in the first place, to observe, that between us and the highest god there are certain mighty powers, which, though rooted in, yet possess energies distinct from their ineffable cause; for we, in reality, are nothing more than the dregs of the universe. These mighty powers are called by the poets a *golden chain*, on account of their connection with each other, and incorruptible nature. Now, the first of these powers you may call *intellectual*; the second *virgine*; the third *pæonian*, and so on, which the ancients desiring to signify to us by names, have symbolically denominated. Hence, says Olympiodorus (in M.S. Comment. in Georgiam) we ought not to be disturbed on hearing such names as a *Saturnian* power, the power *Jupiter*, and such-like, but explore the things to which they allude. Thus, for instance, by a *Saturnian* power rooted in the first cause, understand a *pure intellect*: for *Κρονος*, or *Saturn*, is *καρος νοος*, i. e. ο καθαρος, or a *pure intellect*. He adds, hence we call all those that are pure and virgins, *κρηαι*.

On this account, too, poets* say, that Saturn devoured his children, and afterwards again sent them into the light, because *intellect* is converted to itself, seeks itself, and is itself sought: but he again refunds them, because intellect not only seeks and procreates, but produces into light and profits. Hence, likewise, Saturn is called *αγκυλομηης*, or *inflected counsel*, because an inflected figure verges to itself.

Again, as there is nothing disordered and novel in intellect, they represent Saturn as an old man, and as slow in his motion: and hence it is that astrologers say, that such as have Saturn well situated in their nativity are *prudent* and *endued with intellect*.

In the next place, the ancient theologists called life by the name of Jupiter, to whom they gave a twofold appellation, *δια* and *ζην*, signifying, by these names, that he gives *life through himself*†.

Farther

* Orpheus, Homer, Hesiod, &c.

† Pythagoras, Plato, &c.

* So in Hesiod in his Theogony.

† These etymologies of Saturn and Jupiter, are given by Plato in the Cratylus; a dialogue in which he every where etymologises agreeably

Farther still, they assert that the sun is drawn by four horses, and that he is perpetually young, signifying by this his power, which is motive of the whole of nature subject to his dominion, his four-fold conversions, and the vigour of his energies. But they say that the moon is drawn by two bulls: by *two*, on account of her *increase and diminution*; but by *bulls*, because as these till the ground, so the moon governs all those parts which surround the earth.

I persuade myself every liberal and intelligent mind will immediately perceive the propriety and accuracy of the above interpretations; and be convinced, from this specimen, that the fables of the ancients are replete with a meaning no less interesting than novel, no less beautiful than sublime.

That your readers may be still farther convinced of this, I shall subjoin the division of fables given by the Platonic philosopher Sallust, in his elegant Treatise on the Gods and the World: "Of fables, some are *theological*, others *physical*, others *animastic* (or belonging to soul) others *material*, and, lastly, others mixed from these.

"Fables are *theological*, which employ nothing corporeal, but speculate the very essences of the gods; such as the fable which asserts that Saturn devoured his children: for it obscurely intimates the nature of an intellectual god, since every intellect returns into itself.

"But we speculate fables *physically*, when we speak concerning the energies of the gods about the world; as when considering Saturn the same as Time, and calling the parts of time the children of the universe, we assert that the children are devoured by their parents.

"We employ fables in an *animastic* mode when we contemplate the energies of soul; because the intellections of our souls, though by a discursive energy they proceed into other things, yet abide in their parents.

"Lastly, fables are *material*, such as the Egyptians ignorantly employ, considering and calling corporeal natures divinities; such as Isis, earth; Osiris, humidity; Typhon, heat: or again, denominating Saturn, water; Adonis, fruits, and Bacchus, wine. Indeed, to assert

that these are dedicated to the gods, in the same manner as herbs, stones, and animals, is the part of wise men; but to call them gods, is alone the province of mad men; unless we speak in the same manner as when, from established custom, we call the orb of the sun, and its rays, the sun itself.

"But we may perceive the *mixed* kind of fable, as well in many other particulars, as in the fable which relates that Discord, at a banquet of the gods, threw a golden apple, and that a dispute about it arising among the goddesses, they were sent by Jupiter to take the judgment of Paris, who, charmed with the beauty of Venus, gave her the apple in preference to the rest. For in this fable the banquet denotes the supermundane * powers of the gods; and on this account they subsist in conjunction with each other: but the golden apple denotes the world, which, on account of its composition from contrary natures, is not improperly said to be thrown by Discord, or Strife. But again, since different gifts are imparted to the world by different gods, they appear to contest with each other for the apple. And a soul living according to sense (for this is Paris) not perceiving other powers in the universe, asserts that the contended apple subsists alone through the beauty of Venus."

If the intellectual philosophy, then, is alone the true key to ancient mythology, surely nothing can be more ridiculous than the attempt of the Abbé Banier, to explain ancient fables by history; not to mention that his interpretations are always trifling, and frequently impertinent; are neither calculated to instruct nor amuse; and are equally remote from elegance and truth. That this is not mere declamation, the following instance from his *Mythology*, will, I persuade myself, abundantly evince: "I shall make it appear (says he †) that the *Minotaur*, with *Pasiphaë*, and the rest of that fable, contain nothing but an intrigue of the queen of Crete with a captain named Taurus; and the artifice of Dædalus, only a sly confident." Let the reader contrast with this, the following explanation of this fable, given by Olympiodorus in his MS. Commentary on the *Gorgias* of Plato: "The *Minotaur* signifies the

ably to the Orphic theology. Most critics, not perceiving that Plato's design in this dialogue was to speculate names *philosophically*, and not *grammatically*, have very ridiculously considered his etymologies as for the most part false.

* By this is to be understood, powers which are wholly unconnected with every thing of a corporeal nature.

† Vol. I, of the translation of his *Mythology*, p. 29.

savage passions which our nature contains: the *thread* which Ariadne gave to Theseus, a certain divine power connected with him: and the *labyrinth*, the obliquity and abundant variety of life. These therefore being one of the most excellent characters, vanquished this impediment, and freed others together with himself."

Reserving a farther discussion of this interesting subject to another opportunity, I remain, your's, &c.

Manor-Place,
Walsworth.

THO. TAYLOR.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

IN the same page of your Magazine for last month there are two queries from correspondents, which betray a degree of ignorance of the most common places of philosophy, that one would hardly have expected to meet with at the present day from any person who had at all turned his mind to that study, and from those who had not, such questions are not to be expected.

Mr. W. E. if he had ever attended to the Lavoisierian chemistry, as he is pleased to term it, must have known that azote is found in considerable quantities in a very large tribe of plants, viz. all the cruciform, which comprehends the wild-cress, mustard, &c. found in every pasture; and the experiments of Bertholt, prove that it is also present in a very great variety of other vegetables. It is strange indeed that any man who ever perceived the smell of putrid cabbage, should assert that azote exists in *no* vegetable whatever. But even allowing this negation, let us attend to Lavoisier's own words; "Azote is one of the principles most abundantly diffused through nature. Combined with caloric, it forms azotic gas, which constitutes two-thirds of the common atmospheric air." Might not then any quantity of it be combined with the animal organization, by the act of respiration, which is so often repeated during life, even if none were received by the stomach.

To Mr. E. L.'s query about the bell, it is sufficient to observe that the vibrations of the air within the glass-receiver, are communicated to the receiver itself, and by that means to the external air. The accuracy of this experiment is doubted by many ingenious philosophers, but on other grounds than those stated by E. L. If your correspondent will apply his hand to the walls of a steeple during the ring-

ing of a peal, he will be convinced of the power of bells, to communicate their vibrations to solid bodies.

A. B.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

PERMIT me to correct some errors in my account of Lupericio and Bartolome Leonardo. I asserted, from the *Parnaso Espanol*, that no edition of their works had been printed since that of Zaragoza, 1634: I have now procured one published since the *Parnaso*. Don Ramon Fernandez, the editor, has prefixed a sensible preface: "One of the principal causes," he says, "of the bad taste observable in the greater part of the poetry of the present day, is the scarceness of good authors, who might serve as models to our youth; while the multiplied editions of the corruptors of our poetry are in the hands of all, maintaining and perpetuating a bad taste." He remarks the vague eulogies lavished upon the Spanish poets by their editors, applying to them indiscriminately the phrases of purity, elegance, enthusiasm, beauty, &c. and proceeds to point out the characteristic and peculiar merit of the two *Argensolas*. In this preface there is a very curious trait of the national vanity. After mentioning the rich and harmonious versification of these authors, he adds, this has at all times been an endowment peculiar to the Spanish poets, for if we consider well, we shall find that they gave a harmony and ease to the Latin metres which is not to be met with in the poets anterior to Lucan and Seneca. The chorusses of the three genuine tragedies of this great tragedian, incomparably exceed those of Horace in their flowingness and harmony; and the excellent hexameters of Lucan, have, in these points, a great advantage over those of Virgil. And even what Cicero* says of the Cordovan poets confirms this, though some, from wrongly understanding the passage, interpret it as a reproach: for Tully, in this place, speaks only of their pronunciation and accent, which to Roman ears, accustomed only to sweetness, might appear strange and harsh; this by no means proves that their verses were bad or deficient in harmony; instead of this I presume, that the too great swell and fullness of the Spanish poets, that *loquore rotundo*, that *os magna sonaturum*, which Horace so much

* Cordubæ natis poetis pingue quiddam cantibus atque peregrinum. Cicer. pro Archias

recommends, and which since the Greeks none have executed better than the Spaniards; this I conceive to be what appeared unpleasant to Cicero, whose ears were accustomed to verses little more harmonious than those of Ennius.

The epistle from which an extract was printed in your Magazine, is given by the present editor to Francisco de Rioja. I know not whether the reasons he assigns are sufficient to ascertain the author, but they certainly prove that it could not have been written by Bartolome Leonardo:

I have selected three sonnets as characteristic of these authors, the two first are by Lupercio:

Thou art determined to be beautiful,
Lyrus! and, Lyrus, either thou art mad,
Or hast no looking-glass; dost thou not know
Thy paint-beplaster'd forehead, broad and bare,

With not a grey lock left, thy mouth so black,
And that invincible breath? We rightly deem
That with a random hand blind Fortune deals
The lots of life, to thee she gave a boon
That crowds so anxiously and vainly wish,
Old age, and left in thee no trace of youth
Save all its folly and its ignorance.

Content with what I am; the founding names
Of glory tempt not me; nor is there ought
In glittering grandeur that provokes one wish
Beyond my peaceful state. What tho' I boast
No trapping that the multitude adores
In common with the great; enough for me
That naked, like the mighty of the earth,
I came into the world, and that like them
I must descend into the grave, the house
For all appointed; for the space between,
What more of happiness have I to seek
Than that dear woman's love, whose truth I
know,
And whose fond heart is satisfied with me?

From Bartolome Leonardo.

Fabius, to think that God hath in the lines
Of the right hand disclosed the things to come,
And in the wrinkles of the skin portrayed,
As in a map, the way of human life,
This is to follow with the multitude
Error or ignorance, their common guides;
Yet surely I allow that God has placed
Our fate in our own hands, or evil or good
Even as we make it: tell me, Fabius,
Art not a king thyself?—when envying not
The lot of kings, no idle wish disturbs
Thy quiet life; when, a self-govern'd man,
No laws exist to thee; and when no change
With which the will of Heaven may visit thee,
Can break the even calmness of thy soul?

T. Y.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

IT is a common observation, that almost all great discoveries have been stumbled upon by chance: a multitude of instances might easily be cited, to confirm its truth. Now I have, with concern, heard this fact employed, as an argument, to discourage eager scientific research: "Why not trust to that chance which has struck out the most valuable inventions of past ages? Why withdraw from the ordinary duties and pleasures of life, to busy one's self in vain investigations, which are, most probably, to end in ridiculous disappointment?"

To me it occurs, that this reasoning, which, to lazy ignorance, appears but too specious, might be silenced for ever, if it could be ascertained, that useful inventions and discoveries have become continually more numerous, precisely in proportion as the general mass of human knowledge has been augmented and diffused, and as the thirst of literary and scientific curiosity has become more impatient, and has been excited still in a greater number of minds. But I know no very promising means of ascertaining this, other than to intreat you to put the question, through the channel of your Magazine, "Whether our useful inventions and discoveries have not been multiplied, in proportion as our knowledge has been enlarged?"

Pray oblige me by putting this question. I have little doubt but your host of enlightened correspondents may easily furnish such answers as shall for ever fix the general truth upon this not unimportant point.

I am, sir, your constant reader,

A FRIEND TO

PHILOSOPHICAL EXPERIMENT.

University of Glasgow, Dec. 17, 1797.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

I PROFESS myself a very warm admirer of the writings of Mr. WILLIAM GODWIN. He has seized some of the most important truths in morality, with a lynx-eyed intuition, powerful to pierce through every obscurity, and to single out its object at once, however numberless the myriads of others among which it may be entangled. The reader of his books feels, on many occasions, as if he were suddenly gifted with the author's own vigorous intuition; and can discern the truth of his most valuable principles, without the toil and perplexity of reasoning.

ing. In eloquence, this writer distinguishes himself by an irresistible energy, which he seems to derive from an enthusiastic conviction of the truth and high importance of the doctrines which he teaches. If sparing in imagery, if rarely successful in lengthened ratiocination, he is eminently excellent in sentiments, and he seems to know all the genuine emotions and language of all the higher passions.

But Mr. GODWIN's erudition, and even his power of reasoning, in cases of very complex and tedious deduction, are very unequal to the ardent, impassioned force of his genius. A remarkable proof of this appears in his Essay on English Style. He there supposes it to be a prevalent opinion, maintained, in particular, by Johnson, and other philologists of high authority, that *the English style written in the last century, and even at a time so remote as in the age of Queen Elizabeth, was, in all respects, more perfect than that of our contemporaries*. This opinion he strives to combat and destroy by a long induction of passages from the eminent writers of six different periods, from the reign of Elizabeth to the end of that of George II.

Now the opinion against which he so laboriously fights, *never was maintained by any critic*. JOHNSON and LOWTH have taught only, "that the writings of the authors of the last century, and of the age of Elizabeth, contain an *immense treasure of words and phrases*, sufficient to express, in speech or written composition, even all, or almost, all our present knowledge; and that we should do more wisely, to seek our terms and phrases out of that treasure, than continually to debase our style by words and idioms affectedly introduced from other languages, not richer than our own." Mr. GODWIN has certainly not refuted this opinion; and I suppose it is what will not quickly be done by any person.

As little do his quotations and his asterisks appear to me to evince the badness of those styles which he condemns; even his own admirable style, and those of his most eminent contemporaries, are not much more secure against such minute criticism, than the styles of SHAKESPEARE, or our translation of the Bible; besides, the colouring of words and phrases partakes of the changing, fugitive nature of that of REYNOLDS's portraits. I should undertake, too, to produce, from every one of the writers cited by GODWIN, instances of correct and elegant writing, to confront his examples of incorrectness.

Jan. 3, 1798.

H. R.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

THE following remarks upon our English weights, are submitted to the consideration of your correspondent, J. R. not under the idea of their conveying to him that learned and correct information which he solicits, but on the contingency of their supplying him with some facts that may have escaped his own researches, and with the additional view of contributing to the gratification of such of your readers as are less acquainted with the subject; the great difficulty of which will, I trust, apologize for the errors that I may commit.

It appears to have been a favourite object with the legislators of the middle ages, to accomplish equality, or unity, in weights and measures. Thus, in the laws of the Lombards, we find, "*De mensuris, ut secundum jussionem nostram equales fiant.*" In the capitulary of Charlemagne, "*Unusquisque habeat æquam mensuram & æquales modios;*" and again, "*Ut æquales mensuras & rectas & pondera justa & æqualia omnes habeant.*" In Magna Charta, "*Una mensura vitis sit per totum regnum nostrum & una mensura cerevitæ & una mensura bladi; de ponderibus vero sit sicut de mensuris.*" This clause, or the substance of it, is repeated in many of our subsequent statutes; but the numerous regulations upon this subject, unequivocally prove the impossibility of effecting so just and laudable a purpose, and yet leave us quite in the dark with respect to what had occurred to prevent it. The obstruction may partly have arisen from the difficulty of obtaining a common medium; and therefore, in all countries, there must have been a perpetual variation, both in weights and measures. In France, there were scarcely two cities to be found in which they agreed.

The next thing to be examined, is the origin and progression of the various alterations that have been made in our weights.

It has been asserted, but I believe without any proof, that William I, upon his arrival in England, changed the weights of his newly-acquired dominions, and introduced those of Normandy, and particularly the troy weight.—Although it is not impossible that the troy weight might have been known to the Normans, from their ancient connection with Champagne, yet this weight does not appear in our statutes, as will be hereafter shown, until a much later period; besides, it appears,

pears, from William's own laws, that he established the weights and measures of his predecessors in this kingdom, "Et quod habeant per univertum regnum mensuras fidelissimas & signatas, & pondera fidelissima & signata sicut bonis predecessores statuerant."—Leg. 57. de mensuris & ponderibus. I am aware that his Latin laws are not without imputation of forgery, and that, consequently, little or no stress can be laid upon this quotation. His pennies are also found to have been of the same standard as those of his Saxon predecessors, another argument that he did not change, at least, the money weight of the kingdom; and it is very probable, as we shall perceive in the course of even this slight investigation, that there was no other at this time. ▀

In the assize of measures of Richard I, the pound and other weights are directed to be of the same quantity, or specific gravity, throughout the kingdom, according to the diversity of merchandise. Here we perceive, and I believe for the first time, a variety in the standard weights of the land.

In the "*Compositio de Ponderibus*," the date of which does not appear, though it is probably before Edward III, the pound, for spices and drugs, was to contain twenty shillings, and for all other commodities twenty-five shillings. The pound also for drugs was to contain twelve ounces; and the ounce was, at all times, to contain twenty pence: thus we see there were, at this time, two pounds; the one of twelve ounces, the other of fifteen: the latter is called the merchants' pound, in *Fleta*, written about this time in which the *compositio de ponderibus* was made. The author also speaks of the pound of twelve ounces, as making twenty shillings, and of the ounce of twenty pence.

I shall here take occasion to observe, that our oldest pound would naturally be of twelve ounces, like the Roman *libra*; and this is proved from the word *inch*, which is the same as *ounce*, i. e. the twelfth part of any thing. Agricola, in a treatise "*de Ponderibus & Mensuris*," is said to describe two different pounds, the one of twelve, the other of sixteen ounces; the first of these he calls *libra medica*, the other *libra civilis*; but, as I have not seen his work, it remains to be ascertained, of what antiquity are these weights, and where made use of?

In the stat. Westm. 31 Edw. III, c. 2, mention is made of "weights of Exchequer standard;" but neither the terms

troy nor *averdupois* are used upon this occasion.

The above may serve as a slight sketch of the alterations in our weights, after the conquest; let us next endeavour to throw some small light upon those obscure terms, *troy* and *averdupois*.

I should scarcely have troubled the reader with the following opinion, relating to the origin of troy weight, were it not for the purpose of confuting it. The laws of Edward the Confessor mention, that the court of Hustings, in the city of London, had been built after the manner, and in memory of, the city of Troy, thereby adopting the fabulous account of the foundation of London by the Trojans. To support this comparison, STRYPE, in his edition of Stowe's Survey of London, assumes, that the troy weight was called, in the time of the Saxons, the Hustings weight. He shows authority, indeed, for the existence of Hustings weight; but, to have proved his point, he should have shown that Hustings weight was also called troy weight.

The more common opinion is, that the troy weight was imported with the Normans; but this is improbable, for the following reasons: 1. That William, as has been already shown, did not change the weights of the kingdom; 2. That, in the *stat. Paris*, 5 Hen. III, the weights are not described in troy, but money weights, and the same in the *stat.* 51 Edw. I; 3. That the pound troy is not mentioned in the statute-book, nor elsewhere, that I can find, until the 2d Hen. V, c. 4, in the statute of Westminster, relating to goldsmiths.

As a *standard weight*, it occurs, I believe for the first time, in 12 Hen. VII, c. 5. The non-existence, as far as I have been able to trace, of a troy pound, seems to prove that this weight could *never* have been used for heavy articles of any kind, nor was it used as a money weight, until the reign of Henry VIII.

As to the origin of the term, there are different opinions. The more common one is, that it came from *Troyes*, in *Champagne*. Du Cange says, that troy weight was used, not only in France, but in Germany, England, Spain, Flanders, and other parts of Europe, and that this arose from the celebrity of the fair at Troyest. Bishop Hooper, however, objects, with

* Survey of London, Vol. II, p. 466, Edit. 1755.

† Glossar, v. Marca.

great reason, to this opinion, from having noticed that, in a document given by Du Cange, a specific difference is made between the mark of England and that of Troyes; and, finding a coincidence between the English ounce, and that used by the moneyers and apothecaries in Egypt, conjectures that troy weight might have been so denominated, from the Arabian word, *Taraw*, which signifies spices*. Had he recollected there was a city of Troy, in Egypt, he might have gone farther; but in neither case does the opinion seem deserving of much attention. The bishop adds, that Sir HENRY SPELMAN appears to have thought that our troy weight was not borrowed from the city of Troyes, from his styling it *libra Trojana* (and *Troja pondus*) and not *Trecensis*; but SPELMAN, aware, perhaps, of the difficulty, does not enter into the subject, though he describes many other sorts of pounds.

With respect to *avordupois weight*, it will be necessary to examine, in the first instance, its etymology. It is, as to this kingdom, undoubtedly a Norman-French word, and implies either *habere pondus*, or *habere debitum pondus*, *avoir du poids*: should the latter appear too fanciful, let it be remembered, that the idiom of the French language would now require, in the former instance, *avoir le poids*, though it is impossible to criticise, with any degree of certainty, upon the old French. The older word is simply *averium*, or *averia*, which, from innumerable instances, appears to have denoted all kinds of moveable property. Du Cange derives it from the French *avoir*, but I should rather suppose it a barbarous term from *habere*, the common parent. In the "*Liber Consuetudinum Imperii Romanie*," which was composed in the thirteenth century, and exhibits a most curious specimen of the Italian language of that period, I find the word *avoveria* used for land; and the term, variously disguised, was probably indicative of property of all kinds: it was also used in the old Spanish language. SPELMAN's derivation from *œuvre* scarcely deserves notice.

Avordupois occurs in our statutes, in the sense of heavy merchandise in general, and I believe, for the first time, in the stat. York, 9 Edw. III, and frequently afterwards. As a weight, it does not appear in the statutes, until 24 Hen. VIII,

c. 3, where it is called *lawful weight*, but was certainly known long before, for STRYPE, in his edition of STOWE's Survey, Vol. II, p. 344, gives an extract from the records of the city of London, 6 Ed. II, in which it is mentioned. I think it is more probable that the weight was denominated from the merchandise, than the latter from the weight, notwithstanding COWEL infers the contrary.

By stat. 27 Edw. III, stat. 2, c. 10, it is directed, that all avordupois commodities be sold by one method of weighing, that is, by even balance, without inclination of the scales to either side, as appears to have been sometimes fraudulently practised. A similar ordinance had been already made, in the reign of Edw. I, notwithstanding a remonstrance on the part of the mayor and sheriffs of London, that a contrary practice had immemorially prevailed, with respect to avordupois goods, as appears from the plea books of Edward I & II, cited by Cowel v. Pondus, Regis. I would here remark that, in my humble judgment, Cowel, or his editor, has misconceived the meaning of the extract from the plea books, and that the term *pondus regis* meant nothing more than the royal, or authorised weight, as to avordupois goods, and not a different, nor troy weight.

In the reign of Elizabeth, our weights were, at length, regulated by the presentment of a jury, which, for troy weight, adopted a standard at Goldsmiths' Hall, "of ancient use," and for avordupois "an ancient standard of 56lb. remaining in the Exchequer since the time of king Edward III, and then in use." This presentment was afterwards allowed by the queen and her council, and a proclamation issued for the making of weights agreeable thereto, and for distributing them throughout the kingdom, in the places mentioned in stat. Hen. VII*.

Patterns of the above weights were deposited in the Exchequer, where the avordupois weight of fourteen pounds is marked with a crowned E, and inscribed XIII POVNDE AVERDEPOIZ ELIZABETH REGINA, 1582†. The troy weights, marked also with a crowned E, are ounces from 256 oz. to the sixteenth part of an ounce. There being no pounds troy, seems a proof that that weight was never designed for heavy articles. Other weights in the Exchequer are dated 1601.

* Hooper's Enquiry into the State of the Ancient Measures, pages 435, 437.

* Strype's Stowe, II, 345.

† Philos. Transact, No. 470.

A complete set of troy and averdupois weights, dated 1588, were delivered to the churchwardens of the parish of St. Margaret, Westminster, pursuant to the proclamation of that year, and were seen, December 1749, in fine preservation, in the vestry-room of that church, where they probably still remain. These are imagined to be the most perfect models of those standards that are extant*.

In the year 1696, an experiment was made at the Exchequer, to ascertain the proportion between the troy and averdupois standards, when 15lbs. of the latter were found equal to 18lbs. 2 ozs. 15 dwts. troy, which fixes the pound averdupois, at 7000 grs. troy, and the troy pound at 5760; and upon three several trials made by the gentlemen of the council of the Royal Society, at the same place, upon a medium, the pound averdupois, was found equal to 7000.25 grains troy. Bishop Hooper says, the pound averdupois, is to the troy as 175 to 144, and is equal to 7000 grains troy; but its ounce, which is the sixteenth part of it, is equal to 437.5 such grains, whereof the ounce troy is 480†.

Wine measure has generally been considered as equal to troy weight; and the ale gallon is said to bear the same proportion to the wine gallon, as the averdupois pound does to the troy.

There is another pound weight which may deserve some notice before we quit the subject, and that is, the lower, or moneyers' pound. Mr. FOLKES thinks that this was the pound in common use before the Conquest; to which I beg leave to add, that it may be the Husting's weight already mentioned. The tower weights continued to be used there until Henry VIII, by an order of council only; and, without the sanction of parliament, established the troy weight in its stead, and ordained that the other should be no more used. It was found, upon this occasion, that the gravity of twelve ounces, or the tower pound, was in proportion to twelve ounces troy, as 5400 to 5760, or as 150 to 160.

I am, sir, &c.

Dec. 21, 1797.

D.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

THE subject of your Lincolnshire correspondent's letter, p. 344, is a pleas-

* Maitland's History of London, and private MS. memorandum.

† Hooper's Enquiry, p. 10.

ing proof of the general circulation and utility of your most valuable Magazine, and, at the same time, of the importance of what has already appeared in it respecting Book Societies.

Every candid liberal person among your readers must join in wishing this gentleman and his public-spirited friends all possible success. Their good sense will of course suggest the propriety of obtaining copies of the rules of as many other Reading Societies as they can meet with, in order to select the best from each, and to form a perfect whole. Permit me in this view respectfully to suggest to them, the careful perusal of your correspondent *Mercator's* letter, vol. iv. p. 264.—The evil he complains of is indeed real, increasing, and therefore should be carefully guarded against. Perhaps the following easy plan would be effectual for this purpose:—Let the committee be changed every three months; and let the new one be composed of such members as shall be drawn by the librarian out of an urn, containing the names of all the society except the last committee. By this means all underhand combinations, clerical bigotry, or party spirit, will be prevented as much as possible; each member will have the opportunity of gratifying his own taste, subject to proper regulations, in the choice of books, and free discussion, so essential to the spread of literary knowledge, be greatly promoted.

Perhaps too, it would be useful if at certain fixed periods, suppose every six years, the books in the library were to be inspected by the whole society at their annual meetings, and such of them as were rejected by the vote or ballot of three-fourths of the members *who have previously perused such books*, were sold, and the money arising from the sale of them applied to the purchase of new books. In the hasty, unpremeditated manner in which great numbers of books are introduced into such libraries as these in question, there must, of course, be many which are of but little value in the estimation of the majority of the subscribers, and which disappoint the expectation even of the proposer himself. Now, in such cases, there seems to be a great impropriety, as well as loss, in permitting books of this description to remain as part of the stock of the subscribers, seeing they are in reality no better than mere useless lumber. The only case which is requisite on such occasions, is to guard against the effects of bigotry and party spirit; for which purpose a very little previous

previous attention will be sufficient, as the rejected books must have been perused by the members who vote against them, and a large proportion of these members must agree in opinion before the rejection can take place.

In hopes of seeing these hints in your next Magazine, I remain, sir,

Your constant reader,
LIBER.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

I WILL thank any of your philosophical correspondents for a solution of the following problem :

Place two vessels of equal capacity, one on the ground, and another elevated thirty feet in the air, during a shower of rain ; when it is over, the vessel on the ground will be found to contain nearly a third more in quantity of water than the other. The fact has been ascertained by numerous experiments, but never satisfactorily explained. B.

For the Monthly Magazine.

A TOUR FROM LONDON TO DUBLIN AND SOME OTHER PARTS OF IRELAND; VIZ. THE COUNTIES OF KILDARE AND WICKLOW, MADE IN THE SUMMER OF 1797.

MR. EDITOR,

MY present intention is to give (through the medium of the Monthly Magazine) an impartial view of some parts of Ireland in its present state, which I hope will not prove unentertaining or altogether unworthy the attention of your numerous readers ; and as a description of those parts of *Ireland* which I shall mention is my sole object, I shall not dwell upon such parts of England and Wales as I pass through on my route, but notice them so far only as they are subservient to the design of this paper.

From London then, through Kew, Richmond, Staines, Windsor, Henley-upon-Thames, Oxford, and Blenheim, I proceeded to Shrewsbury. Thence I directed my course through those beautiful parts of North Wales, Llangollen, Llanwst, Conway, Bangor, and Bangor Ferry, as far as to Holy-head, where I embarked on board one of his majesty's packets for Dublin. This vessel sets sail every evening (Tuesday excepted) as soon after the arrival of the Irish mail from London (which is generally about six o'clock in the evening) as the tide will permit.

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The distance from the shore whence you embark to that on which you land is about twenty leagues, and the passage, which is a very safe one, varies of course in point of time, according to a favourable or unfavourable wind; sometimes being made in six and at others not in 48 hours ; but the general average passage is from twelve to twenty-four hours. Whenever the packet arrives near the Irish coast, which in consequence of the packet generally sailing in the evening, is about sun-rise, Dublin Bay presents itself to the view, being one of the most delightful and picturesque scenes in the world. Indeed its splendid appearance has never been questioned by any traveller, nor has even a parallel been drawn between it and any other view, except that of the Bay of Naples ; and connoisseurs are still undetermined to which of the two the preference ought to be given. It presents a long range of diversified mountains, enriched by a multiplicity of beautiful demesnes, which, when thus bespangled with the beams of the morning sun, cannot be delineated with equal beauty by the pencil of the most scientific artist. These mountains begin from the water's edge, and gradually and proudly rise in succession for many miles, until, in the language of Othello, "*Their tops touch heaven.*" In the midst of this apparent distance, but nearer the bottom of the scene, is discovered the city of Dublin (the Metropolis of Ireland) whose steeples, indeed it is to be lamented, are so few, at the same time that this view of Dublin is the most unfavourable which can be taken. The most eligible is that which presents itself from the Phoenix Park, a place westward of Dublin, of which I shall speak hereafter. As you approach near the capital, you behold that grand promontory, the hill of Howth, proudly projecting into the sea upon the right hand ; while upon the left, or to the southward, and a little nearer the capital, is the Casoon, or light-house, a very handsome circular building, raised in the ocean, five miles from Dublin. Upon this extent, which runs five miles into the sea, there is now completed a great wall of durable stone-work, rising about ten feet above high water mark, and thirty feet wide upon the surface. This great undertaking is of the most essential service to ships trading to and from Dublin, as it prevents a great bank of floating sand which lies to the southward, from joining with another similar bank to the northward, called the North Bull, which

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has

has been, and still in tempestuous weather continues to be, extremely injurious, and sometimes fatal to trading vessels, which are not perfectly acquainted with the entrance into this harbour. This wall thus keeps the mouth of the harbour from being choked up. Three miles nearer Dublin, at a place called the Pigeon-house, and situated upon this wall, the packet lands her passengers in a fine and newly erected dock, where now also a very spacious hotel is nearly completed, into which the passengers can instantly retire upon landing; a circumstance hitherto much wanted by all persons resorting to that part of the sister kingdom.

In committing my observations upon the city of Dublin to paper, I shall begin with the public buildings, and first with the Parliament-house, the south front of which has, for many years, been the admiration of all who are well skilled in architecture. It is composed of a massy colonnade of the Ionic order; the base of every column being three feet six inches in diameter. These columns all spring from an elevated platform, to which you ascend by a flight of steps, which do not, as is too often the case, tamely rest upon the base of the column, but are regularly elevated upon the pedestal truly belonging to that order of architecture, and thus giving the whole order in perfection. Independent of the entrance in the centre of this colonnade, the eastern and western extremities of this front present you with a bold projection of the same colonnade, continued for many feet, and forming two other grand insulated entrances.

About twelve years ago, it was thought expedient to take away a little of the overflowing money from the Irish treasury, and with it to erect a new front to that part of the building called the House of Lords. For this purpose a committee of these hereditary counsellors of the crown was appointed, and a plan and elevation was proposed, which was carried into execution, and finished in 1791. This now forms the east front of that building: and had this eastern front been erected in any place unconnected with other buildings, it certainly would deserve to be celebrated, as it is composed of a very handsome portico, consisting of six columns in a fancied order, nearly resembling, but not exactly, the Corinthian. This portico has no pedestals springing from the base of the column, which rests upon a platform, elevated by three stone

steps. Over this colonnade is a pediment, upon which is erected three statues larger than life, excellently sculptured in Portland stone, representing WISDOM, JUSTICE, and LIBERTY. It is, however, a circumstance no less extraordinary than true, that although this expensive eastern front was designed for the grand entrance of the Lord Lieutenant, when he proceeds to parliament to open and close the sessions, as well as to give the royal assent to such bills as the Irish parliament enact, yet not any Lord Lieutenant has ever entered the Irish house of peers through the superb portico since those said three statues of WISDOM, JUSTICE, and LIBERTY have been erected, but he proceeds in his usual state through the old front, which *has never been decorated with any of those emblems.* To which we may add, that this handsome, though uncorresponding, eastern front, is joined to the south front, by an unmeaning heavy curtain-wall. A few years after this portico was raised, the House of Commons was resolved to have a front erected to the westward of the building, as if determined not to be outdone by the lords; and, accordingly, a committee of the guardians of the public purse was appointed to fix and determine upon a plan and elevation. A western front indeed they did erect. But how? Not like either the south or the east front; but one designed by themselves, forming a portico, consisting of four columns of the Ionic order, and much inferior to those in the south; to which grand front, however, they have connected it, by a range of unmeaning columns projecting about six feet beyond another clumsy curtain-wall. Thus is this once grand, and now expensive pile of building, rendered, by the jarring opinions of lords and commons, one of the most heterogeneous edifices ever erected.

The inside of the Irish House of Lords is something similar to that at Westminster. The walls are hung with tapestry, finely executed, representing King William at the battle of the Boyne; but the inside of the Irish House of Commons is a very beautiful structure of an octagonal form, round which there is a large and commodious gallery for spectators. Columns which support a fine dome, spring from this gallery, and between those columns, in the front of the gallery, is an handsome balustrade. This House of Commons, which is just finished, is, with a little improvement, similar to one which

which was destroyed by an accidental fire on the 27th of February, 1792, and which stood upon the same site.

Dublin Castle, the seat of the resident Lord Lieutenant, is a very handsome and commodious palace. Its beauty, however, has been much injured by the present Marquis of Buckingham, both externally and internally; externally, by stopping up a very chaste and light arcade in the principal front, when he was there in 1783 as Earl Temple, which now has an odious appearance, and is, at the same time, rendered totally useless; and internally, when he was Lord Lieutenant there in 1788, by converting a magnificent hall at the top of the great stair-case, at that time called the Battle-axe Guard-hall, into a presence chamber. This apartment is totally unnecessary, as prior to this there was a most excellent one; and instead of the former grand entrance, you must now pass through a lobby which was before merely the landing (as it is called in architecture) of the great stair-case, which at present resembles the confined lobby of a decent prison. He has, indeed, caused some allegorical pictures to be placed in the ceiling of the ball-room. This room, in honour of the order of knighthood of St. Patrick, and in which upon that day, viz. the 17th of March, 1783, the knights of that order dined, has been called, since the first installation, St. Patrick's Hall. The mutability of public favour was, perhaps, never more predominant than in the two periods of that nobleman's administration in Ireland. For in the year 1783, when he resided there as Earl Temple, he rendered himself the idol of the Irish nation; but in the years 1788-9, when he was there as Marquis of Buckingham, he became to the same people progressively obnoxious; privately quitted the kingdom, from a small sea bathing place near Dublin, called the Black Rock, and carried with him the censure of the Irish House of Commons, which record remains upon the Journals of that House to this very hour.

[To be continued.]

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

YOUR correspondent, H. M. (page 193, of a late Magazine) asserts, that

Vir, precor, uxori, frater, succurre, sorori,
when read according to the doctrine of

Mekerchus, is not a rhyming hexameter. It is not only rhyming, but doubly rhyming: as perfectly so, as

Suaderdo stultis oleum disperdere vultis?

or any other leonine verse. But having learned, it should seem, from the prosodical dissertation to which he infers, that the two last syllables of *uxori* form a spondee; and continuing in his vicious habit of reading as a trochee the two last syllables of *sorori*, which form a spondee also, himself viciates the rhyme. And if he had not read with great inattention, he would have seen, that (directly contrary to his assertion!) the detaching or separating, in pronunciation, any syllable from a word, is disapproved: and that even in the scanning, according to the method there recommended, the very syllable he mentions, the last in *uxori*, would not be separated from the preceding syllable.

As to the "Formal Attack," which H. M. seems to threaten, it had need to be conducted with considerable skill and power, if he hopes with any effect to counteract the public approbation which the revived doctrine of Mekerchus has obtained, and to dislodge it from the strong-hold it occupies, in the countenance already given to it by one of the first, if not the first, of the schools of reputation in the kingdom.

Were it not beside the question, a good defence might be made for the rhymes, though nothing ~~can~~ be said for the style, of the trochaic couplet, by (as H. M. properly expresses himself) a *worthy* fabricator of birth-day odes; for no one ought to be able to write in a better style who would accept an office so degrading letters as a laureateship—*worthily* refused by that sterling poet who has so elegantly taught, that

Virtue's an ingot of Peruvian gold,
Sense the bright ore Potash's mines unfold;
But Temper's image must their use create,
And give these precious metals sterling weight.

I am, &c.

W. S*.

[* When in our last we announced our intention to discontinue the controversy on the subject of Metronariston, one short letter, here inserted, had escaped our notice. For the sake of the two pieces of information which it contains, we now give it place. —EDITORS.]

THEORY OF THE INFLAMMATION
OF PYROPHORI.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

I SEE, with great pleasure, that you are extremely successful in your attempts to cook up the *utile* with the *dulce*. The public relish the dish. Nay, I believe, there never was a Scotsman fonder of his *haggis*, nor a Englishman of his *beef-steak*, nor a Spaniard of his *olla podrida*, nor an Italian of his *macaroni*, than are all these among my neighbours, who are thought connoisseurs in the food of the mind, of the *Monthly Magazine*. You cannot be ill-pleased to know, that your *Miscellany* has found its way as far north as did *Cromwell's* soldiers, and English *cabbages*, in the middle of the last century; and is read with eagerness on the classic grounds of *Macbeth*, and of *Osian*.

It is not, however, a classic matter, but a small *chemical trifle*, with which I now wish to trouble you. There is a particular composition, known to chemists by the name of *pyrophorus*, because it possesses the property of being liable to spontaneous inflammation in the open air. It was composed by Homberg, apothecary and chemist to the famous regent duke of Orleans, by the distillation of alum with the residue of human excrement. There are very many vegetables and animal matters which, if treated with alum, afford this *pyrophorus*. It may be obtained from the greater number of those salts which contain sulphuric acid in union with whatever base. M. Proust has even proved, that any substance containing carbonaceous matter, in union with an earth or oxyde, is susceptible of this spontaneous combustion in the air. It is now commonly prepared by melting three parts of alum with one part of sugar, honey, or meal, exposing the melted, cooled, and hardened mixture, a second time, to heat, till it be kindled to burn for a few moments, with a blueish flame; then cooling the matter thus burned, and preserving it in a dry flask, closely stopped, to be used as *pyrophorus*. Exposure to the atmosphere brings it instantly to burn with a flame sufficiently vivid. The more humid the air, so much the more readily does this inflammation take place.

To account for a phenomenon so remarkable, as the spontaneous inflammation of this *pyrophorus*, chemists have offered several different theories, which are almost all alike unsatisfactory. Hom-

berg and Lemery supposed, that the presence of calcareous earth in the mixture was the cause of the inflammation. Le Jay de Savigny imagined the mixture to contain a glacial oil of vitriol, which, attracting moisture from the atmosphere, gradually heated the mass to inflammation by this means. Mr. Bewly, in a letter to Dr. Priestley, ascribes the same effect to the presence of a principle in the *pyrophorus*, by which there is nitrous acid attracted from the atmosphere. Others have conjectured, that the combustion of *pyrophorus* by spontaneous inflammation, might be owing to its always containing in it a quantity of phosphorus. But none of all these theories has been received in the world as completely just and satisfactory.

Now, sir, I think I can exhibit a new and peculiar theory of the relations of this curious chemical phenomenon, of which the striking truth and simplicity shall not fail to command the immediate assent of all intelligent chemists.

In combustion in general, the principal thing that always takes place is the new combination of oxygen on the one hand, with carbon, or some different matter, on the other hand. The oxygen for this new combination is usually detached out of its union with light and caloric in vital air. The light and caloric which it deserts, are, in consequence of this desertion, commonly evolved into a momentarily free state, in which they present themselves to our senses, as heat and flame. But carbon and other combustible matters cannot, in every temperature, nor in every state of aggregation, detach oxygen out of vital air, and by its abstraction produce an evolution of heat and flame. It is necessary, in order to this event, that the carbon or other combustible matter be, where it is presented to the contact of the vital air, considerably comminuted; and that the vital air exhibited to it be, at the same time, super-calorated, in such a manner, as that the ordinary mutual attractions of its ingredients may be greatly weakened by the super-caloration. In this state alone of the respective substances, does the phenomenon of combustion usually take place.

But there are oxygenous compounds in which the oxygen is much more slightly combined than it is in vital air: and it is possible to exhibit carbon to oxygen in some states which shall be more favourable to combustion than others. In certain states of most of the acids and the metallic oxydes, oxygen undeniably exists in them, in a very loose combination.

Destroy,

Destroy, as much as possible, the aggregation of these acids and oxydes; and let the aggregation of the carbon, which is to be brought into contact with them, be, in a like manner, destroyed. Mix these two comminuted substances together, and the mixture will be always a *pyrophorus*, if the feebleness of the combination of the oxygen in the oxyde and the acid, together with the comminution and the commixture of the carbon and the oxygenous compound, be particularly favourable to combustion, in the same precise degree with the comminution and the super-calorization of ordinary cases: but the presence of air is necessary to the spontaneous inflammation of this *pyrophorus*; because only air can begin combustion, and make it not tacit, but perceptible, by means of light and flame. If not before the air be presented, yet at least almost as soon as it presented, the temperature, necessary to the decomposition of vital air, is already excited. Moisture in the atmosphere is favourable to the inflammation of *pyrophorus*, for the same reason for which water poured in small quantities upon a strong fire, rather feeds than tends to extinguish the flame. The water or vapour is decomposed into its constituent parts; and these aid the combustion.

"1. *Pyrophorus*, therefore, burns spontaneously with access of air, because it contains oxygen in so loose a combination, and in such mixture with carbon, that these advantages towards inflammation are fully equivalent to that super-calorization which is produced in ordinary combustions by the application of free, external heat.

"2. All mixtures are susceptible of spontaneous inflammation, in which oxygen and combustible matters are mingled together, with the above advantages."

Such is my humble theory of the spontaneous inflammation of *pyrophori*.

I am, sir,

An admirer of your Miscellany,

And your very humble servant,

J. M'O.

Inverness Academy, Dec. 12, 1797.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

IN your Magazine for last month, I was a little surprised at the communication of your correspondent, "Thomas Howley," on the subject of the electric "property belonging to India rubber."

That two people should accidentally stumble upon the same discovery, at the

same time, is a little singular; but it may in a degree account for the apparent plagiarisms in the writings of people whose pursuits are similar. About the time that your correspondent observed the electric fluid occasioned by the friction of India rubber upon paper, I, also, accidentally noticed similar effects, which I communicated in November last, to a society for experiments in natural philosophy, of which I am a member, in this place. Previous to this, I had written a letter, with an intention of sending it to you; but being desirous of making farther experiments, I deferred sending it.

From the different experiments I have made, it appears to me, that your correspondent is mistaken, if, by saying "the property belonging to the elastic resin," he supposes that the electric fluid is produced from the India rubber. I apprehend it will be found to proceed from the substance on which the paper is laid to be rubbed upon, for if it be laid upon a quire of paper, a deal table, a piece of leather, or parchment, which are very weak non-electrics, no effect, or very little, will be produced, not more than if laid on a plate of glass, which is an electric; on a linen cloth laid on a table, more will be observed; and, if laid on the following substances, the electric power will be very perceptible, and, I believe, more and more in the order of enumeration used, viz. a smooth stone, a mahogany board, a board painted yellow, a board painted chocolate, a board painted white, a plate of iron, &c.

It is to be understood, that in every experiment the paper must be warmed a little, and if the substance on which it is laid to be rubbed be a good conductor, a spark of a considerable length may be drawn from it (hence an easy criterion to judge of the best non-electrics.)

The paper may be held by one corner, and raised from the table, or whatever it may lie upon, while under the strokes of the rubber (of which a few will be sufficient) when the spark may be drawn.

If the India rubber, or any other electric, be applied to the excited paper, it will discharge itself immediately; but the cracking noise made when discharged by a non-electric, will not be heard.

The property of exciting paper does not belong exclusively to India rubber; almost any substance, either electric or non-electric, will produce the electric fluid, if applied to paper as a rubber, though not quite so much as India rubber: amongst many other substances which I have tried, with the same effect, I men-

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tion those of paper, sponge, smooth mahogany, a piece of glue a little warmed, linen cloth, leather (of which, that used for soles is the best) &c.

After going through these and many other similar experiments, I made a square deal frame, on which I glued a sheet of paper, I then placed it before the fire, and applied the India rubber as in my other experiments, but the propensity to electricity was so weak, that it was only visible by its attracting a light feather, suspended by a thread. Hence my opinion that the fluid is collected from the substance on which the paper is laid, and not from that by which it is rubbed.

If the paper be rubbed with bees' wax previous to its being used, it will be found to have a much stronger propensity to the production of electric matter, than when quite clean.

I am, sir,

Your obedient servant,

THOS. GRIFFITHS.

Manchester, Dec. 20, 1797.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

I AM not inclined to controvert the arguments advanced in your last, by *A Sufferer by Forgery*, either as to the propriety of adopting every possible means to prevent the forgery of bank notes, or as to the degree of guilt which attaches to the public, or to any class of the community, when they punish, with severity, a crime which they have not done every thing in their power to prevent.

His reasoning, on these points, goes so home to the conviction of every man, that I am sure his suggestions will not be overlooked; but, towards the close of his letter, he starts a question which ought not, in my opinion, to have been brought forward, until he had ascertained its truth; and the more so, as the fact to which it alludes is of such a nature, that even more than a common degree of evidence would be necessary to give it any degree of credibility.

Before I proceed farther, I beg leave to quote your correspondent's own words: "If there be," says he, "any degree of culpability on the part of those in whose department it lies, in not having adopted such obvious improvements in the fabrication of bank notes, as the present advanced state of the arts puts within their reach, will it not be aggravated if it shall be found, that they have refused a plan which would not only have rendered forgery much more difficult than at present, but almost, if not altogether, impossible—a

plan, to the excellency of which all the principal artists in London have borne testimony?"

I will readily grant, that if a plan, so powerfully recommended, has been rejected by the Bank Directors, they are not only deserving of censure, but, however justly the forger may deserve hanging, will be accessaries to murder, if they ever prosecute to death any future forger, while their notes continue to be fabricated on the old plan. But to me, and, I dare say, to all your readers, it must appear absolutely impossible, in the nature of things, that the fact can be true. Are not the Bank Directors men of the first character in the commercial world, both with relation to property, abilities, probity, and integrity? Could such men be so criminally negligent and regardless of the high trust reposed in them, and of the duty they owe, not only to their immediate constituents, but to the public, as to refuse a plan calculated to lessen the number of forgeries and public executions? Impossible! But even, if we could for a moment suppose them so devoid of principle, as to allow themselves to be influenced by a spirit of patronage and private motives in the employment of those who are more immediately connected with this department; could we believe that men of their penetration would be so blind to their own interest, as to neglect the means of adding to the security of their individual property? This would be to suppose them governed by principles different from those which actuate all mankind, and more void of intellect than ass-drivers.

If, by "the principal artists in London," the "*Letter by Forgery*" means Bartolozzi, Heath, Sharp, Fittler, and other equally eminent men, which I have a right to think he does, by the deservedly respectful manner in which he speaks of them, I will allow that their judgment is not to be questioned on a point of this nature. But it will be no easy matter to convince the public, that the Bank Directors would arrogate to themselves a right to set up their opinion, on a question connected with the arts, in opposition to that of such men—of individuals, whose character, for probity and honour, stands as high as that of the Directors themselves; for a proper degree of modesty will ever be found to result from those attainments which qualify a man for so distinguished a situation as that of a Bank Director.

By principal artists, it would be unfair to suppose that your correspondent merely means

means engravers of shop-bills and clock-dials; for, though among these there may be, and no doubt are, many men of abilities and character, it might be no difficult matter for a projector to find, among this class, friends who might be influenced to approve a plan on which they are by no means competent to decide. But, even in this case, the Directors would certainly have bestowed on the plan the attention to which it might appear to be entitled, by taking the opinion of abler artists to guide them in their determination.

Thus, I think, I have demonstrated, from every view that can be taken of the subject, how extremely improbable it is, that the Bank Directors have refused a plan recommended in the manner which has been stated; but, if it should turn out to be true that they have actually rejected such a plan, in spite of all the inducements for its adoption which it holds out, I know no language which can do justice to their demerits.

The question may, however, be brought into a narrow compass: if such a plan has been proposed, let its author come forward, and let the artists, by whom it has been approved, declare themselves also. This is a duty which they owe to the public; and no motives, of a private nature, ought so to operate, as to prevent them from its performance.

The public have a right to every security the bank can give them; and if the plan, to which the *Sufferer by Forgery* alludes, be calculated to increase that security, I can with safety promise him, that its merits will be investigated by more than one

PRIVATE BANKER.

London, Dec. 22.

For the Monthly Magazine.

TO THE EDITOR,

WITHOUT intending the smallest offence, sir, to your ingenious correspondent, Modulator, I will be bold to counsel him to observe correctness in his promulgation of anecdotes. No such conversation, as he pretends, could ever have possibly passed between the late Mr. Burke, my old acquaintance, and the worthy doctor alluded to; because the small grammatical dispute in question really happened in the House of Commons during the American war, and in my hearing. It was between Lord North and Mr. Burke, the former schooling the latter very much, to his apparent mortification, for pronouncing the *i* short in veci-

gal; and I believe a guinea wager was betted. The truth is, Mr. Burke, as Lord North well knew, and has often told me, was but an indifferent classical scholar, not knowing a letter of Greek, perhaps even unable to construe many or most of his own Latin quotations.

It has been wondered at by many, that your Magazine, acknowledged, at last, even in our reluctant circles, as the best which has hitherto appeared in our language, should never have given the public, or even noticed, the character of Mr. Burke, as given by the man who, of all others, knew him best, the late Gerrard Hamilton. It appeared first in France, and afterwards, about July last, in some of our Magazines. Certain it is, the friends of Mr. Burke did all in their power to suppress it, and I believe succeeded in some degree. Hamilton's quarrel, with Burke is now said to have been purely of a political nature, and that there are, besides the character in question, certain pieces from the pen of the former, which will one day be highly interesting to public curiosity.

DEMOCRATICUS.

Pall-Mall, Sunday Evening, Dec. 17.

For the Monthly Magazine.

[The following account of the present condition of the United States of North America, in several important particulars, is translated from the *Déclat Philosophique*, one of the French Periodical Journals.]

IN the United States of America, the sciences may still be said to be but in their cradle. Three colleges and one university, of theology, of law, and physics; five or six Academical Societies, which are but in a paralyzed state; a number of very active Private Societies, instituted for the purposes of commerce, manufactures, &c.; and a proportionate number of private schools for the education of youth, constitute, at present, the only sources of intellectual and moral instruction. Indeed the general character of the inhabitants of the American States, leads them to study rather the means of augmenting their fortunes, than to cultivate the sciences, and to contribute, *pro parte virili*, their quota towards the progress and dissemination of knowledge. The public prints, of which there is a great variety, have the same tendency here, as in Europe, to corrupt the public spirit, or to cloak the faults of an inefficient government, frequently convulsed by ephemeral factions. A long residence and diligent observation are indispensibly necessary to develope

develope the springs of action. I have devoted considerable attention to this subject, and flatter myself that I have selected a fund of materials which will not be found wholly uninteresting in a commercial and political point of view.

The laws in this country breathe a spirit of humanity; and the inhabitants, in general, their private interest out of the question, may be said to be well-disposed. An exception, however, must be made with respect to the rich, overgrown merchants, who remember, with regret, the æra of the British monarchy, and entertain a strong predilection for titles and other marks of distinction. By far the majority are favourable to the French; and in the last election for a mayor, and other magistrates, in Philadelphia, the choice fell upon the avowed partizans of the French Republic.

With respect to *religion*, every denomination is tolerated. This renders the inhabitants tractable and gentle, as no religious establishment is exclusively protected by government; but, perhaps, there is hardly a Christian country where less genuine piety is to be met with. Young people are regular in their attendance at church, because they are well aware that, without a due regard to appearances, they could obtain no advantageous situation, form no eligible matrimonial connections, or establish themselves with credit in life.

Men of advanced years frequent church through habit, or to obtain the confidence of their respective societies, and secure an influence in the direction of their temporal concerns. A few pious souls there are, who have no other view in their devotion than to commune with the Supreme, comfort their fellow-creatures under afflictions, and inculcate the divine precepts of morality, by actions and virtuous example, rather than by idle ceremony.

In this country no tythes nor royalties are paid. Whilst subjected to the British government, the United States of America refused to admit the Catholics to any public office; but, since their emancipation from the British yoke, this unjust law is abolished; and men of every persuasion are indiscriminately admitted to a participation in all the functions of government. Catholics, of the Greek and Romish church, Presbyterians, Quakers, Turks, and Jews, are all equally eligible to public situations, and are at liberty to adore the Supreme, according to the dictates of their conscience. There are, likewise, a number of *Separatists* and *Seckers* in the colonies, who belong to no particular sect, but

profess to follow, as their sole guide, the impulse of conscience, without attaching themselves to any individual society. Toleration in America is carried to an extent greater than even in France. It is but lately that a Presbyterian church elected for their minister a negro from Guinea, a man of exemplary character, and of no contemptible abilities, who acquits himself with credit in his new vocation. I have frequently seen him officiate in his robes, and have heard him preach with great satisfaction; and I make no doubt but he will prove an useful acquisition to his society.

The *population* of the United States amounts to about five millions of inhabitants, exclusive of the western settlements, which are well peopled, and contain, at a moderate calculation, 120,000 persons. But it must be taken into consideration, that the sum total of inhabitants doubles every fourteen years, as has been clearly substantiated and ascertained by exact official documents: this gives a more rapid increase than Franklin has stated.

Agriculture and *commerce* form, almost without exception, the principal employment of the inhabitants: and were it not that the rich merchants discourage, by every possible means, the progress and improvement of American manufactures, in order to monopolize the exclusive commerce with England, by which they accumulate immense fortunes in a very short time, arts and manufactures would be in a highly flourishing state. The single branch of ship-building employs, in this country, several thousands of hands. At this very moment, when France pays after the rate of 300 livres per ton for vessels built of whole deal, and very moderate solidity, the American shipwright constructs his vessels of red cedar, or oak, which wood is of a far superior quality, and will last double the time, than the timber made use of in Europe; yet, notwithstanding these advantages, and although the American vessels are built upon a better and more solid construction, they may be purchased at the rate of 170 livres per ton, completely finished, and ready for sea. If the French Republic should at any time stand in need of 20,000 ton, in new vessels, the United States can furnish them at the price above stated, which, in time of peace, would sustain a considerable abatement.

The annual *exports* of the United States, according to authentic documents, exceed twenty-six millions of dollars, exclusive of what has not been entered at the customs. The

The speculation in land finds employment for a great number of adventurers, some few of whom acquire immense fortunes, at the expence of the major part, who ruin themselves.

I know of no work, published in America, deserving of particular mention, in a grand national point of view. Their Journals are a chaotic assemblage of lies, where even commercial advertisements are altered and disfigured. Some Anglo-American authors have written esteemed moral works; but these are so voluminous, so dear, and so little read, that they serve here, as in Europe, to support the pomp of a library, which is visited from a motive of curiosity, without reaping any utility from it.

The grand source of the riches of the Americans results from the fertility of their territory, the temperature of the climate, and the cheap price of land, which holds out an irresistible temptation to emigrants from other countries. The traffic in land is the first object of attention with the monied men, who may purchase acres by the thousand, at the rate of three sols per acre. This land they afterwards sell to some poor emigrant for two francs, who is frequently obliged to relinquish his purchase, for want of hands and money to cultivate it, and sells it for twenty sols per acre, to a new adventurer, before a single plough has passed over it. Agriculture is, notwithstanding, in general estimation; but it is only in the interior of the United States that it is pursued with proper activity. The frontiers of this vast empire consist of a mere assemblage of deserts, inhabited by a few straggling, unfortunate fanatics, who subsist upon milk, potatoes, and Indian corn.

The American manufactures, although discouraged by commercial despotism, are in a state of gradual, though but slow, improvement. Inventions, and machines for manufacturing purposes, are daily brought nearer to perfection, and it may, with strict truth, be affirmed, that America, in this respect, far surpasses Europe. The truth of this assertion, I hope to establish by a collection of designs, taken from actual pieces of mechanism, which I have in agitation to publish. At the distance of about three miles from Philadelphia, is a water-mill, belonging to a Mr. Johnson, formed upon a very ingenious construction, which, with the assistance of only two men, performs as much work as could be executed on the common principle by the united efforts of 300 persons. These

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machines, which simplify labour, diminish the expence of the commodities, save a multitude of hands, and multiply the manufacturer's profits, are permanent sources of opulence and property. Franklin, Rittenhouse, and other ingenious mechanics, have enriched the American States with an incredible variety of useful machines, of which Europe has not the smallest idea. I have in my possession exact plans of a great number of them.

I have frequently been in company with VOLNEY. Our discourse generally turned upon the subject of our travels. I am at present lodged in his apartments, from whence I write this letter. He had undertaken a journey to Carolina and some of the settlements on the Ohio. I had visited this year the northern districts of the United States, Long Island, the states of New York, Jersey, Connecticut, and Maryland. I have entered into an agreement with VOLNEY to visit this spring the southern provinces, with the western settlements, having been appointed, in the last general assembly of the Quakers at Philadelphia, one of their deputies to visit the Indian nations, and to establish, if possible, some handicraft business among them, as labourers, smiths, carpenters, &c. in hopes of introducing some degree of civilization among the western tribes, which we charitably are in the habit of distinguishing by the appellation of savages, though, in fact, they possess more humanity than many civilized nations. My intention is to visit the Mohawks, the Delawares, the Shawanese, in one word, to glean, among the Indian tribes and aborigines of North America, all the moral and physical intelligence which may fall in my way.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

IF it is not making an improper use of your valuable Miscellany, and occupying a place that might be more usefully employed, it would greatly oblige me, and, I doubt not, add to the comfort of many families in the country, that brew their own beer, if any of your numerous correspondents would answer the two following Queries:—In brewing ale, at what degree of heat, on Fahrenheit's scale, ought the water to be when it is let off into the mash-tub to the malt? Likewise, at what degree the wort should be, when the yeast is added to excite fermentation? These two points are well known to all public brewers, but I have not met with any treatise on brewing in which they are ascertained. Com-
 brun is become so scarce, I have not been

E
 able

able to procure it, or possibly might from that have obtained the information I now solicit. I am, your's, &c.

Ludlow, Dec. 20, 1797.

N. S. T.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

THE establishment of national schools in France may at least be considered as one benefit arising out of the progress of the revolution, and in proportion as the design matures and becomes general, must eminently promote the ends of a good government, inasmuch as every citizen will be taught to feel his weight and consequence in a state where talents and virtue form the criteria of promotion. Such institutions, on a similar plan, have long been the desideratum of this country. In England, the education of youth has been uniformly, except in some few instances, intrusted to the most ignorant and incapable, or to schoolmen who heated with the prejudices of a college, view the progress of the mind with distrust, and treat its aptitude with neglect.

A few benevolent men, but whose funds were too small to realize their designs, lately had a plan in contemplation, which though, perhaps, impracticable under an administration jealous of the advancement of knowledge, was certainly calculated to effect much good.

The benefits of their establishment extended to all degrees of people, who were to partake equally in their plan of instruction. A school-house was to be erected; the experiment was first to be tried in the country, to which every man in the vicinity or at a distance, was at liberty to send his children. The system of education was likewise different from that generally pursued, it being more the object of the establishment to render its pupils practically wise than philologically learned; and as those who formed the society were sensible, that "*less danger is to be apprehended from ignorance than error*," a pure and unadulterate system of morality should be taught, divested of scholastic induction, and arising simply out of principles of conciliation and mutual justice. It was likewise intended to instruct the boys in the common law of the land, and to give them such a necessary insight into the constitution of their country, as might enable them to appreciate the value of its fundamental principles, and qualify them for the discharge of their duty. All distinctions, but those of superior merit, to be carefully avoided; while their leisure hours, as recommended by Rousseau,

should be devoted to such as might improve them to fatigue; or, occupied with such amusements as might usefully direct their future labours.

But these are schemes of national improvement to which society at present does not seem competent. Prodigious and luxurious, tenacious of rank and fond of distinctions, we sacrifice dignity of character and the economy of virtue to useless and splendid exhibitions, which sink and destroy the elevation of moral sentiment and the sense of public duty. Governments likewise tremble at the throb of public virtue, and feel shaken to their centres when mankind show the least disposition to shake off their mental stupor, or to assert the dignity of the human understanding.

If, however, to inform the mind and yet direct it, so that it may be useful to the community and honourable to its country; and that, while it seeks the enjoyment of literary and philosophical instruction, it may contemplate without disgust the subordinate offices, necessity and want of fortune compel us to recur to; are objects worthy the consideration of the legislator and philanthropist, we should adopt some such institution as that proposed, and thus prepare the way for the happiness of mankind. Let, sir, the members of any state, who ought all to be the equal care of a wise government, mingle with one another; let them be taught in the same schools, where their daily toil will be mutual, their emulation kindred. The different species of instruction are open to all, and the dread, that in proportion as you enlighten a people, you unfit them for the laborious concerns of life, will not be felt where the affections are cherished as reciprocal, and where obedience is less the effect of duty, than the inclination of regard.

Jan. 15, 1798.

Z. W. R.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

MANY months back, appeared in your Magazine, some good observations on PROVINCIAL COINS. On perusing them, I was led to pay the subject a more serious attention, than I had been accustomed to do, and wished to give the study an useful direction; being well aware that many, both writers and collectors, have trifled about medals, and exposed themselves to deserved ridicule. I sent a short letter on the subject to your Repository, accompanied with a medal sacred to the cause of FREEDOM; it being designed to preserve the remembrance of the independent conduct

conduct of the Herefordshire yeomanry, in their election of Robert Biddolph, esq. to be their representative in parliament; the circumstances of that appointment, and the generous resolutions that followed, deserve the most honourable mention; and are worthy not only of being held up to general imitation in modern times, but of being handed down in the most respectful manner to posterity: for it may with truth be asserted, that there is not a single member in the House of Commons, who has been placed there by a conduct equally spirited and popular.

The letter was accompanied with a proposal, that when medals were struck, entitled to public notice, one should be sent to your Magazine; and it was submitted to your judgment, whether it might not be at once agreeable and instructive to your readers to present them with an engraving of it.

This letter was a mere hint, and appeared in your Magazine: but I wished to ascertain, how far it was consistent with your plan, to allow the subject a more ample discussion. I accordingly proposed, if agreeable, to resume it, and to send an explanation of the Herefordshire medal.

The insertion of that letter I considered as an answer to my question; and accordingly, in conformity with my promise, sent a second letter, containing some observations on medals, first, in reference to ancient literature, after the manner of Spanheim, Villalpandus, and Addison; and afterwards, in reference to modern times, with a few particulars concerning the Herefordshire election, explanatory of the medal.—This last letter never made its appearance.

I, at first, apprehended, that the essay might not suit the genius of your Repository, going, as it did, into a minute examination, and making respectful mention of an art that is frequently treated as trifling. But on enquiry—I have been informed that the printer has mislaid it. I beg permission, therefore, to give this information; otherwise I am liable to be charged with levity, or inadvertence. For I pledged myself to write on the subject, if agreeable to your wishes; and your insertion of my first letter will be considered in the light of a compliance with my request: a farther reason for my writing will be made to arise from a call of one of your correspondents, unknown to me, to fulfil my engagement.—My second letter was communicated to you, before that letter made its appearance. I am, sir, &c.

Jan. 5, 1798.

G. D.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

THE reciprocal desire to communicate and to listen to extraordinary narrations, especially such as appear to contradict the usual course of nature, is every where prevalent among mankind. Tales of ghosts and witches, once the fruitful source of the marvellous, have now ceased to affect even the vulgar. But singular deviations from what we are accustomed to see, are still received with peculiar avidity. To the operation of this principle, I am inclined to refer the various narratives with which you have been favoured by several correspondents, of toads found shut up in solid rocks, of slate, of freestone, and even of marble, of which last there is a specimen in the Marquis of Rockingham's seat in Yorkshire,

I have observed a striking peculiarity in all the instances brought forward in your Magazine. No one is given by an eye-witness of the fact, but always on the authority of some person of undoubted veracity, that is, in whom the narrator had implicit belief. I need hardly observe, sir, how much in this respect these stories resemble the tales of ghosts, which are always given at second-hand, and we can never see the person, who, himself, saw the ghost. Now, sir, as to me it is a real miracle, that an animal which has lungs, and consequently requires air; that has a stomach, and organs of digestion, and therefore stands in need of food; that has bulk and dimensions, and therefore occupies space; should be found in the centre of a solid rock, where there is neither air, food, nor vacancy—for I think no man will be hardy enough to assert that a toad can live during the centuries required to form stone; I must be permitted, till the phenomenon is established by better authenticated proofs than have yet been stated, to abide by the golden rule laid down by Mr. Hume, viz. to believe in the lesser miracle. Surely it is more probable that all these people should be mistaken, than that the course of nature should be so unaccountably perverted. An inclination for the marvellous is a sin that easily besets us, and is with difficulty repelled: the best mode of curing it, is an attentive study of nature, which not only teaches us that her laws are uniform, but satisfies that inclination of the mind for the wonderful, by unfolding the real wonders with which every part of creation abounds. I am, sir, your's, &c.

A. P. B.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

A CORRESPONDENT signing himself N. in a letter inserted in the Monthly Magazine for October last, requested an explanation of that article of our creed, "the Communion of Saints"—He will find, I think, a very satisfactory one in archbishop Secker's 14th Lecture on the Catechism of the Church of England, wherein he conceives it to mean that communion of benevolence, kind offices, instruction and edification, which should be among all good Christians. B. G.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

"GREAT wits jump" says the old proverb; now, Mr. Editor, were you and I to set down in our respective closets (quære garrets?) with an intention of favouring the world with our compositions on the same given subject; and supposing, after publication, it should be discovered that, not only an identity of reflections, but an identity of expressing those reflections, pervaded the whole—what would the world say?—What, but that I had pillaged from you—or you from me—or that we were two "composite knaves?"—Granted! well then, to my subject: amongst the numerous works of Oliver Goldsmith, his History of England in three vols. 8vo. was esteemed one of his best publications, and the sale was in proportion to the estimation: during his lifetime, was published an abridgement of the same, confessedly by himself. Some years afterwards, I believe, appeared another history, "In a Series of Letters from a Nobleman to his Son," which has vulgarly been ascribed to Lord Lyttelton!

On perusing these two abridgments (for the "Letters" are nothing more) the most glaring sameness is discoverable through the whole: the same reflections, and the very same expression of them, every where occur: the only difference, where there is any, is merely occasioned by the use of the second person, as is usual in an epistolary form, or the same sentiment sometimes thinly gauzed over by a variation of the expression. To select instances would be needless—a ready example will be found throughout the whole.—From hence it appears that the "Letters" are merely Goldsmith's History, put into that form by some needy bookfeller, or more needy author. *Ingeni largitor venter!* says

DR. PANGLOSS.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

THE very high state of improvement to which the art of printing has arrived, must give great pleasure to every lover of literary pursuits. He reads with peculiar delight, a book printed with a clear type and on good paper, and enjoys a high luxury when most beautiful typography is impressed upon large, thick cream-coloured, wire-wove paper, hot-pressed.

But men in the middling rank of life cannot afford to indulge in luxuries of the table, neither can they afford luxuries in books; plain well-dressed meat is better diet for them than turtle-soup, and plain well-printed books are more proper for them than large cream-coloured, wire-wove, hot-pressed, ones. Occasionally, they may spare a guinea to purchase a luxury, but they must more commonly content themselves with humble necessities.

It is to be wished that authors would take this into consideration; their vanity may be increased by the appearance of their writings on a glossy, thick cream-coloured paper, and occasionally this mode of publication may be indulged in, and approved of; but when an author publishes an interesting work, of general utility, he ought to consider that many persons might obtain benefit and instruction from his book, if they could purchase it at a moderate price, but they cannot afford to buy large cream-coloured, wire-wove paper, hot-pressed.

I am induced to address this letter to you, from having seen a late publication of Dr. Rollo, on Diabetes Mellitus, in 2 vols. 8vo. beautifully printed on hot-pressed paper, price twelve shillings in boards. These volumes contain much interesting information for medical practitioners, concerning a disease hitherto almost constantly incurable, but which this work professes to point out a mode of curing. If this publication was intended to prove serviceable to mankind, by giving new light respecting this distressing disease, it ought to have been published at such a price, as to have been within the reach of the generality of practitioners, and this it might easily have been, had it been printed in a less splendid manner. I think it might have been published in one 8vo. volume, sufficiently well printed for all useful purposes, for six or seven shillings, and this would have been more particularly proper, because it seems probable, from the

the preface, that this will, in a short time, be superseded by a more complete edition; in this case, the purchasers of the present, if they wish, as most men do, to have a perfect work, will probably be obliged to pay a guinea for the whole, in three volumes, and may perhaps lose seven shillings by the first edition.

I mean not more particularly to point out Dr. ROLLO as blameable in this respect; several other authors are, in my opinion, fully as much so as he is. I have alluded to his book, because it has more immediately struck me as much too splendid for general use, but I by no means wish to be understood as censuring him alone.

Let works of taste and standards of excellence, purchased by the rich and magnificent, be published with every embellishment and elegance that art can bestow, but let works, intended for general utility and proposed improvements, be contented to appear in a more humble dress, and at a price which may not absolutely deter the unopulent philosopher from searching into them for wisdom.

September 22.

S. M.

For the Monthly Magazine.

AN EXPERIMENT ON THE CONGELATION OF MERCURY, MADE BY CITIZENS HASSENFRATZ, WELTER, BONJOUR, AND HACHETTE.

THE nitric acid that was to serve for the operation was first prepared; for that purpose, acid was taken of which the specific gravity was 1.526, and this was mixed with a certain quantity of snow, at the temperature of the atmosphere, which occasioned a production of heat. Successive doses of snow were afterwards added, till heat was no longer produced. The acid was then reduced to the specific gravity of 1.420, and was of the same temperature as the atmosphere.

After this preparation, a mixture was made of three parts of snow, and one of sea salt, containing its water of crystallization, the temperature of the atmosphere being 9° (of *Reaumur's thermometer*). By these means a degree of cold of 17° was obtained.

It was observed that this temperature, resulting from the mixture, did not change during three days, though that of the atmosphere varied from 5° above nought to 9° below; nor did the mixture take the temperature of the atmosphere till the salt was entirely dissolved.

This second mixture being made, two little glass pails, one full of snow, the

other of nitric acid, prepared in the manner indicated above, were plunged into it, and in half an hour took the temperature of the mixture, that is to say, 17°; but the snow had, not quite reached the same degree of cold. By means of a *tin band*, some of this snow was gradually introduced into the pail containing the nitric acid; and the mixture, which had a thermometer of spirits of wine plunged into it, was carefully stirred about. The thermometer fell gradually, in a manner perceptible to the eye, till, in about eight or ten minutes, it reached 31°. The mercury, inclosed in very thin bulbs of glass, was then plunged into the mixture also, and became perfectly solid. The person who held the glass tube belonging to the bulb, thought he perceived the moment of the change, by a slight shock which his hand underwent, and which may have been occasioned by the sudden contraction of the mercury; a phenomenon similar to what is observed when phosphorus passes from a liquid to a solid state. It was also perceived that a portion of the metal was crystallized.

The solidity of the mercury was afterwards ascertained by beating it upon a flat plate (*un tas*) with a hammer, both cooled in the second mixture, that is to say, at the temperature of 17°: by this operation it was considerably flattened. One of the experimenters took in his hand the metal thus flattened, and still solid, and, keeping it there for some time, felt a painful sensation, similar to that of a burn. The mercury left a white mark, which afterwards turned red, and was perceptible for several days.

It was remarked that, at the temperature of 31°, the addition of more snow did not increase the cold; but, on the contrary, diminished it by a production of heat: the moment of its doing so was easily determinable, because the snow then swam upon the acid, in the form of little icicles.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

THE following declaration lately sent to a friend for his signature, in order to qualify him for receiving a part of a legacy left by an opulent Dissenter, not long since deceased, afforded me at the same time amusement and concern.

"I — of — do hereby declare, "that I am a Minister, Teacher, and "Preacher of the Gospel; that I am not "an Unitarian, Arian, Socinian, or "Arminian;

"Arminian; but that I am of Calvinistic principles of the ——— denomination; and that I do not usually administer or receive the ordinance of the Lord's Supper, commonly called the Sacrament, kneeling, nor have done so for the last six months."

Undoubtedly the worthy testator had a right to limit his posthumous bounty to poor dissenting ministers of any particular description, and to exclude all others by this or any other test. To this measure he was probably led by having been habituated to a somewhat similar practice, in the management of the congregational fund; the beneficiaries of which have, I believe, been always expected to give in, not merely such a declaration as this, but a regular and explicit confession of their faith. Whether, however, such requisitions are strictly justifiable in any, but especially in persons who profess to dissent from the establishment, upon the principle of the sole authority of Christ in his church, and the unlawfulness of human impositions; and whether they do not naturally lead to the evil consequences so well described in the following letter, I leave to your readers, such of them, particularly, as it may more immediately concern, to judge. I have only to add, that it was found among the papers of an excellent person some time since deceased, who will be known to many of your theological readers by his usual signature of VIGILIUS: It appears to have been the first copy of a letter addressed to a leading manager of the board above-mentioned, more than forty years ago. I am, &c.

V. F.

"REV. SIR,

"WHEN I settled as minister to the congregation of protestant Dissenters in this place, I was informed that for many years they had been assisted in supporting the ministry amongst them, by an annual exhibition from the Independent Fund.

"Accordingly I received five pounds from that fund, about the close of last year but one, which was the first of my ministry here, and for which I am truly thankful.

"At the close of last year, hearing nothing of the usual allowance. I got a friend, one of this society, to enquire, by a relation in town, into the reason of the stop, and solicit a continuance of the usual assistance. After some time we received the following answer, as from you,

that "as I was a stranger to you, if I would send you a letter of my principles, you, or some of your brethren, would take care that something should be given us, if the letter was approved of." I confess I was a good deal surprised at this answer, because the demand is so general and indeterminate. I could not suppose that you expected I should give an account at large, of all the articles of my Christian faith, nor could I conjecture which were especially meant, as no particulars were specified. When I was admitted to preach as a candidate for the ministry, and afterwards at my ordination to that sacred office, many years ago, I gave an account of my principles, I believe satisfactory to some of the most eminent in the dissenting ministry in these parts, such as the late Dr. Charles Owen of Warrington, Mr. Gardner of Chester, Mr. Culcheth of Macclesfield, and others; nor am I conscious of having admitted any material change in my principles since that time. Some alterations in matters of smaller moment, I presume, may be supposed the consequence of farther light and instructions, and of, I trust, a serious enquiry into the truths of the gospel. In general, I firmly believe the gospel of our Lord Jesus, and endeavour to make the holy scripture the rule of my life and ministry; but if a more explicit declaration of my sentiments, with regard to some particular points, be still insisted upon, as the indispensable term of the continuance of your favour, and of the assistance of your fund, I must on that very consideration, beg to be excused; for though (for aught I am certified of) my sentiments in the particulars intended, may be conformable to your own, nay, though I were satisfied they were perfectly so, yet this is a term I dare not comply with: for as I hope, through the assistances of divine grace, to conduct myself in the great concern of faith and salvation on principles of simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, I would not admit pecuniary considerations to have any weight either in the forming or declaring my belief. But if I were apprehensive that my sentiments differed from yours in some things, and that they would be disapproved by you if honestly declared, and that on this account I must forfeit your favour and support, I cannot answer for it how far the above pecuniary considerations, once admitted, though they could afford no evidence to convince my judgment,

judgment, might prove a temptation to accommodate my expressions, to suit with what I might apprehend to be your sentiments, and to conceal my own; nor can I tell how far it might please God in righteousness to leave me, to fall by such a temptation. You have lived longer in the world, and seen more of mankind than I, yet I have lived long enough even in this obscurity, to see and lament more than one instance of these arts of expression and concealment, unworthy the simplicity, rectitude, and integrity of heart, becoming Christianity and the ministry; and therefore upon farther reflection, I cannot but esteem it a piece of necessary justice to you, to suppose that my friend's relation misrook, and inadvertently misrepresented your meaning. I persuade myself that you have too much of the amiable spirit of the gospel, and tenderness for the consciences of your brethren, to allow it to be your intention or practice, to demand of them an account of their principles for your approbation, attending those demands with worldly motives, the suggestions whereof (especially when enforced as in many cases by the prevalence of indigence, and the demands of numerous dependents) so obviously draw into prevarication, a thing which I am sure you least desire: besides that, I am convinced you have too great and continual reverence for the great Shepherd not to be solicitous, that when he shall appear to exact from each of us an account of our respective trusts, you may not be found to have perverted that great and extensive trust reposed in you for the support of the gospel, into a stumbling-block, and an occasion of falling thrown in your brother's way. Your own soul, I am satisfied, prosecutes the thought, and dreads the consequence.

"If indeed it be so, that the person who waited on you, on our account, did not mistake your meaning, and that you really demanded an account of my principles, in order that in case upon trial they met with approbation, I might hope for the continued assistance of your fund, and not otherwise, I can only account for it by supposing that some misemployed tongue or pen hath given you a disadvantageous account of me; and as I know not from whence the attack comes, or upon what part of my character, as a believer or preacher of the gospel, the stroke hath fallen, I must endeavour to bear the hurtful effects of it, with patience and resignation. But however

you may see fit to determine with regard to me, give me leave to intercede with you, good sir, in favour of this small society of serious Christians, so long the charge of the worthy and amiable Mr. —.

"Should you finally withdraw your assistance, they will have great difficulty to support a minister, and probably must soon dissolve. If I am obliged to give way to the discountenance and discouragement I meet with, perhaps they may procure another minister, who may not labour under my difficulties, to give you all required satisfaction; and whoever he shall be, may he prove more skilful and successful than I, in promoting the great interests of the Redeemer's kingdom, and of the faith, holiness, and comfort of his people here! As for myself, if the great Head of the churches hath any farther work for me in his vineyard, may I be found faithfully endeavouring to discharge my duty according to the measure of abilities imparted to me, and I humbly trust in his gracious support and final acceptance. That you may derive from him all suitable strength, support, and blessing, to direct and to succeed you in every faithful endeavour to advance his honour and interest among men, is the sincere and fervent petition of, reverend sir, your affectionate brother, and very humble servant.

"W. T."

For the Monthly Magazine.

IN the eleventh volume of the works of Dr. Johnson, there is, in a vision, intitled "The Apotheosis of Milton," a specimen of reasoning upon *loyalty*, of so very extraordinary a kind, as might make him, who had read such different reasoning from the same writer, bless himself for wonder.

In Westminster Abbey, the genius of the place informs the visionist, that in the room sacred to the spirits of the bards (whose remains are buried or monuments erected within that pile) there was to be held, on the night of the vision (supposed to be that following the erection of the monument to Milton) an assembly of great importance, for debating whether he should be admitted one of the honourable fraternity? and that a strong opposition would be made by some members on account of the principles of Milton. More than *nine-tenths* of this little piece are taken up with very good descriptions of the characters which compose the assembly; of the debate we have but two speeches.

Chaucer,

Chaucer, in deference to his seniority, is appointed president, and enlarges, with great eloquence, upon the fine qualifications, the learning, and genius of Milton, who, he observes, had a right, now that his monument was erected, to a seat in that assembly, which would receive addition of dignity from the admission of such a member, to which, for its own sake, he hopes no opposition will be shown.

Cowley stands up. At first, his air is modest, if not bashful; but as he proceeds, he gathers strength; and at last he rises into "great dignity, both of action and language"—says, that he is extremely sensible of the truths which the venerable president has advanced in favour of Milton, for whom, were he to be regarded only as a poet, no voice should be more ready than his own; but moral as well as intellectual qualities, he humbly conceives, are necessary for constituting a member of that assembly; "*That loyalty and duty to one's prince may be justly ranked among the most eminent of all virtues, since, without them, a man must be destitute of the most glorious passion that the human breast can be capable of receiving, the love of one's country:*" and after speaking in praise of the patriotic passion, and declaring the disloyalty of Milton, concludes (at which time, it is presumed, the great dignity he arose to was at the highest) with saying, "*I own I could not, without horror, endure to see such a man fill a place in this august assembly.*"

Such a man was then unfit for that assembly, as his latest biographer, with so much truth, as well as what one would wish it ever should accompany, enchanting eloquence, has, to borrow his words, so "*highly and boldly accomplished!*"

No attempt at ridicule, we see, by the great dignity attributed to him, is aimed at, by putting absurdities in the mouth of Cowley; whatever the aim may be in the title of the piece, "THE APOTHEOSIS OF MILTON, A VISION." For so it is pointed; as if to indicate, that, as the apotheosis of Milton is a vision only, his spirit has in reality gone in, what the author may conceive, a more congenial direction.

Instead of an apotheosis then, we have here rather a bear and a fiddle, as the narration breaks off in the middle; for, after we are told that Cowley's speech was received with a murmur, which showed that the assembly was variously affected with what had been delivered, three lines of asterisks with a "*cetera desunt*" terminate the piece.

Asterisks, to leave meaning doubtful or disguised, should not be used at all by

such a moralist as Dr. Johnson; especially after their having been so wickedly employed by the historian of Dr. Slop.

It must, however, be confessed, that, in this endeavour at still diminishing the honour of "THE SLANDERED PARAMOUNT OF ENGLISH SONG," the author of "The Rambler" is more consistent than a brother moralist, who, like him, had suffered passion to subdue his virtue, and could with the same pen both deify and deride. *Die funeris*, says Tacitus, *laudationem ejus* [Claudii] *Princeps* [Nero] *exorsus est; oratio a Seneca composita*: the oration was composed by that moralist who for once admitted a gleam of candour, and thought, perhaps, though in inverted order, of that deceased emperor's saying to Britannicus, "He that wounded thee shall heal"—*ὁ τραῦς ἰαθήσεται*. Whether it was given from candour or necessity—for being then Nero's pensioner, he must of course, in our dictionary-maker's definition of the word, be "a slave of state, hired by a stipend to obey his master"—good matter of praise might this moralist have found; for Claudius, though besotted, and as unfit for power as most of those we read of, into whose hands it has fallen, in the great game and chess-play of the world, was a man of as many mild virtues as he, who, now so highly extolled for them, and in so many points resembling Claudius, particularly as a husband, if not as a scholar, had the hard fate of being brought lately to the scaffold, for the practice only of that duplicity which is so generally allowed to belong to his calling, that it cannot, as one of Claudius's predecessors in the calling said, be carried on without it—"Qui nescit dissimulare nescit regnare."

Cowley's, or rather Johnson's, concisely expressed argument against the morality of Milton, would, syllogistically and paraphrastically put, be this:

1. The love of one's country is the most glorious passion that the human breast can be capable of receiving—Superior then to what has been called, "The godlike attribute of the love of mankind," which vulgar minds might think preferably intitled to such a magnificent qualification—and so necessary as well as great a virtue is the love of one's country, that a man who is destitute of it, must be destitute also of morality.

2. But a man must be destitute of the love of his country, and consequently of morality, who is destitute, as Milton was, of loyalty and duty to his prince, justly ranked among the most eminent of all virtues, be that prince what or who he may; whether

whether his existence be a curse to that country, which such a man as M. may pretend to love, and to be disloyal merely from that love, or a blessing to it, as the prince from his situation ought to be, or he is paid highly to a bad purpose; whether, for instance, he be a James the II^d, whom the people had so much reason to detest, as they did, or a George the III^d, whom the people have so much reason to love, as they do.

3. Argal, would a grave-digger say, and say justly from such premises, but which are worthy only of the digger of a grave for the happiness of the human race to make—Argal, M. a man who was destitute of loyalty and duty to his prince, and, consequently, destitute of the love of his country, and of morality, is not a fit man to fill a place in this august assembly. Q. E. D. Even the dean of Westminster himself, with all his grave-diggers, must, by denying the major and minor, annihilate the consequence and its triumphant demonstration.

The reader will judge if the words have been unfairly dealt with. He will likewise exercise his ingenuity, it is hoped, to find, if he can, whether the matter may be mended by imputing to the printer any miscollocation or omission of words, the best resource in these cases of emergency, when we are surprized by most unexpected and extraordinary things. It was of singular use, to relieve the distress of the clergy, upon their receiving, in 1794, the occasional prayer from, but assuredly not as it came out of the hands of, authority. They were allamazed, and some terrified, those of them, about nineteen in twenty, who have squabbles with their parishioners, that might be avoided, if they would but starve contentedly; so equally well calculated is the rythe-system for the advancement of religion and virtue as of agricultural improvement. Little liable to suspicion as one would think were the members of a body so properly and happily in alliance with the state, and, consequently, such faithful guards of the powers that be, yet they were terrified, lest they should be informed against, and brought to a trial for high treason, as they, doubtless, might have been, more justly than many by whom it has lately been undergone, if, before their respective congregations, they had solemnly qualified all christian kings as impious and avowed blasphemers, which the prayer does at the very setting-out, in these words, "Look down, from heaven, O Lord! we beseech thee, and protect us

against the declared enemies of all christian kings, princes, and states! the impious and avowed blasphemers of thy holy name! &c." where, the relative, "blasphemers," clearly belongs to the immediately antecedent "kings," &c. But after they had carefully exercised their judgments, and discovered that the printer had omitted to repeat the proposition "against" before the words "the impious, &c." they very laudably ventured to supply it in their reading; ticklish thing as it is to make any, the minutest, alteration in a form of prayer, even to say "for Jesus Christ's sake" instead of "for Jesus Christ his sake," that ancient barbarism so universally practised before the Saxon genitive was understood.

But if the very curious argument to prove the immorality and unworthiness of M. cannot be helped out by the supposition of a typographical error, how must we deplore—that the strong mental powers which the fabricator of that argument certainly had, and the fervent piety which he is said to have had, were too weak to restrain his envious malignity from leading him, like a foul fiend, into such a bog of peerless paralogisms, or absurd and perverse blunders! It is remarkable enough here, that he not only suffers the eulogies given by the president to the talents and genius of M. to pass unquestioned, but in his own speech, as that put into the mouth of Cowley may be fairly understood, re-echoes them, and declares that no one should be more ready for his admission, were he to be regarded merely as a *poet*; for here his business was to destroy him as a *man*. But in another place, in the *Life of Philips*, as if he could not find room in the long life he has written of M. himself for all his detractions, he is for destroying him as a *poet*; by degrading his universally admired diction; when he says "*The Splendid Shilling* has the uncommon merit of an original design, unless it may be thought precluded by the ancient Centos. To degrade the sounding words and stately construction of M. by an application to the lowest and most trivial things, *gratifies* the mind with a momentary triumph over that grandeur, which *hitherto* hold its captives in admiration; the words and things are presented with a new appearance, and novelty is always grateful where it gives no pain." Yet this is but a weak expression of the sentiment he would inculcate upon this subject, to what he was wont to give with his living voice. For, from that charming

ing model of a dedication, addressed to an amiable literary veteran, by the above-mentioned latest biographer of M. in which the affectionate and ambitious desire that it might do honour to them both, is as completely obtained as it was ingeniously professed, we learn, that Johnson would, in conversation, "declaim against the admiration excited by the poetry of M. and affirm it to be nothing more than the cant (to use his own favourite phrase) of affected sensibility."

But though we must grieve at the above non-reasoning in the non-apothesis of M. we may smile at the following happy translation, to be found in the same volume, and made by the same author, in his happy days, when he was his own man, *suo juris*, of but an indifferent Italian couplet, when the comet appeared in 1742, on the court of Modena's running away from that wicked city, as it was called by the prophets of the day, who said that the comet portended its being swallowed up by an earthquake; for superstition and credulity, we know, will creep into places to which piety is denied access:

Se al venir vostro i principi sen vanno
Dit, venga ogni di---durate un anno!

If, at your coming, princes disappear,
Comets, come every day---and stay a year!
SI SIC OMNIA!

If any doubt of the genuineness of "the Apothesis of M. a Vision" exist, it can find no harbour in any candid mind; as it would be injurious and affrontive to the sagacity, the fidelity, nay, and to the gratitude of the ingenious editor of the works of Dr. Johnson, by whose sagacity, integrity, and fortitude, upon a certain delicate occasion, he was bound in no vulgar obligation.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

WHAT is here offered to your notice is, a translation of the Poetical Legend of Taliesin; being a collection out of *Mân-govion*, or Petty Traditions, as is expressed in the title of it, and apparently made by the writer of a transcript of the works of that Welsh bard, in the beginning of the fifteenth century.

"Hanes Taliesin o'r Mân-govion."

AN ACCOUNT OF TALIESIN, OUT OF
THE PETTY TRADITIONS.

"A NOBLEMAN lived formerly in Pen-lyn, called Tegid the Bald, whose patrimony was in the middle of the lake of Tegid, and

his wife was named *Ceridwen*; of her was born a son, called *Morvran*, and a daughter, called *Greirwyn*, who was the fairest woman in the world. A brother of these two, *Avagzu*, was the ugliest man living, which caused *Ceridwen*, his mother, to think that he was not likely to be received amongst the nobles, on account of his ugliness, unless he was endowed with some excellencies, or was versed in some honourable sciences, as this was at the commencement of the time of Arthur and the Round Table.

"She therefore, agreeably to the mystery of books of chymistry, ordered to be boiled a cauldron of genius and sciences for her son, so that his reception should be more honourable, on account of his knowledge and skill concerning future times.

"Then she began to boil the cauldron; which, after it once began, could not be suffered to cease boiling until the conclusion of a year and a day, so that there should be obtained three blessed drops of the gift of the spirit.

"*Little Gwion*, the son of a villain of *Llan-vair Caereinion*, in *Powys*, was appointed by her to watch the cauldron, and a blind man, named *Morda*, was to keep the fire burning under it, with an injunction not to suffer the boiling to break before the expiration of a year and a day.

"In the mean while, she, with the aid of the books of astronomers, and under the hours of the planets, was daily simpling for herbs of every peculiar virtue.

"Upon a certain day, as *Ceridwen* was simpling, and the year drawing near to an end, it happened that three drops of the precious water flew out of the cauldron, and fell upon the finger of *Little Gwion*, which, on account of the heat, he put into his mouth. No sooner had he put those miraculous drops in his lips, but he knew all things which should come to pass in future; and he was perfectly sensible that his greatest danger was from the cunning of *Ceridwen*, for many were her acquirements in science; and through extreme fear he fled towards his own country. The cauldron broke in two; for the steel and the whole contents, except the three essential drops, were poisonous, so that the horses of *Gwynno Longshanks* were poisoned by drinking the water of the river, into which the cauldron had been emptied; and on that account the river became to called *Gwenwyn Meirg Gwynno*, or *The Poison of the Steeds of Gwynno*.

"Thereupon, *Ceridwen* coming home, and seeing her labour for a whole year lost, snatched up a club, and struck the blind *Morda* upon the head, so that one of his eyes fell upon his cheek; on which he said, 'Thou hast disfigured me, and I innocent; thou hast suffered a loss on my account.'—'Thou sayest the truth;' (quoth *Ceridwen*) it was *Little Gwion* who robbed me.' The pursuit began, the two running; he discovered her, and took the form of a hare, and ran; she immediately appeared a greyhound bitch, turning and driving him towards a river:—he transformed himself to a fish; and she to an otter bitch, and fought for him under water, so that he was obliged to appear

appear a bird in the air; and she became a hawk to pursue him, giving him no respite on the wing; and when she was just laying hold of him, and he dreading death, he discovered a heap of winnowed wheat on the floor of a barn; he descended into the wheat, and appeared as one of the grains; and thereupon she appeared a black crested hen, and to the wheat she went, and with her feet scraping it, she recognized and swallowed him; and, as the story says, she was nine months pregnant with him; and when she was delivered, she could not in her heart kill him, as he was so beautiful, but dressed him up in a leather basket, and cast him to the will of Providence into the sea, on the 29th of April.

"At that time the weir of *Gwynno* was upon the sand, between *Dyvi* and *Aberystwyth*, near his own cattle. In that weir was taken to the value of one hundred pounds every May eve. And at that time *Gwynno* had one son, called *Elphin*, one of the most mischievous of youths, and driven to the greatest want; on which account his father was sorely afflicted, thinking him born in an evil hour. Through the exhortation of his counsellors, his father gave him the draught of the weir for that year, to see if ever any good would happen him, and to enable him to commence an occupation.

"On the morning following, *Elphin* saw that there was nothing in the weir; but, on going away, he discovered the leather basket on one of its poles. Then exclaimed one of the weirmen to *Elphin*, 'Thou hast never been unlucky until this night; for thou hast destroyed the properties of the weir, in which it was usual to obtain the value of one hundred pounds on every May eve.'—'What now!' said *Elphin*, 'possibly we have a good equivalent there for the one hundred pounds.' The skin was opened; and the opener beheld the forehead of a child; and he exclaimed to *Elphin*, '*Lyma Ddaefin!*' (Behold a fair front!)—'*Taliesin* bid,'—'*Fair Front* let him be called,' cried *Elphin*, raising the child in his arms, and commiserating his misfortune; and he pensively took him up behind him. The horse that was wont to trot, he caused now to amble, thus carrying the child as easy as if he were sitting in the most easy arm chair.

"Soon after the child sung the song, called 'The Comfort' to *Elphin*, and foretold him honour. The Comfort begins, '*Elfin ddeg taw a'ch wyllo,*'—'*Fair Elphin cease thy weeping;*' and is the first song of '*Taliesin*, made to cheer *Elphin*, on losing the draught of the weir, as nothing grieved him so much as being the cause of the misfortune.

"Then *Elphin* brought *Taliesin* to the house of *Gwynno* his father; and *Gwynno* asked if he had a good draught in the weir? to which he replied, that he had found what was better than all the fish. 'What was it?' said *Gwynno*. 'A bard,' said *Elphin*. 'Ah, poor thing!' exclaimed *Gwynno*. 'What good will that do thee?' Then *Taliesin* himself answered and said, 'This will be of more value to him than

ever the weir was to thee.' Then *Gwynno* cried, 'What! canst thou speak, and yet so little?'—'I can speak of more than thou art able to ask.'—'Let me hear what thou canst say,' replied *Gwynno*. Thereupon *Taliesin* sung—

'Ar y dwr mae cyvlwr cant bendigav,' &c.

'On the water is the state of a hundred of the most blessed,' &c.

"Then *Gwynno* demanded if he was a man or a spirit? whereupon he sang his history, saying,

'Priv varz cyfredin

Wyv vi i *Elfin*,' &c.

'A primary and universal bard am I to *Elphin*,' &c."

The probable part of the above tale is true; for *Taliesin* was an orphan, brought up by *Elphin*, and afterwards patronized by different princes, particularly *Urien Reged*, as it appears from pieces extant, addressed to that hero. What is fiction is founded upon the bardic system of transmigration; of which system *Taliesin* makes more use than any ancient bard, of whose works we have any remains.

I remain, Sir, yours, &c.

Nov. 6th.

MEIRION.

TOUR OF ENGLAND, (CONTINUED).

Journal of a Tour through almost every county in England, and part of Wales, by Mr. JOHN HOUSEMAN, of Corby, near Carlisle; who was engaged to make the Tour by a gentleman of distinction, for the purpose of collecting authentic information relative to the state of the poor. This Journal comprises an account of the general appearance of the country, of the soil, surface, buildings, &c. with observations agricultural, commercial, &c.

JULY 21, WALTON TO READING, in Berkshire, 28 miles. I left Windsor about four or five miles on my right, passed through part of Windsor park, and crossed the forest. The park, as well as the forest, is very extensive; a great deal of fine timber in the former, but his majesty is clearing and cultivating several large tracts of it: the latter is a mere barren heath, which, as well as the park, hath several pretty high protuberances. On this forest his majesty usually hunts the stag; to which diversion it is, indeed, remarkably adapted, being quite open and spacious. The soil is a sort of sandy, or rusty gravel, and generally dry. The king has rides cut in all directions, which run in direct lines for several miles, and are as wide as common high-roads; they are soft and easy to travel upon, and such a great number

of them, that which way soever the game runs, the hunters are sure to find one or other of these rides pointing the same course. On some eminences neat cottages are erected, where the hunters may take shelter or refreshment. Turf is dug on this forest for fuel, as is the case on some other commons I passed in this day's journey. The surface of the country is, in many places, rather hilly, and particularly the uncultivated parts, where the soil is naturally sterile, and produces heath and furze. The soil of the uncultivated ground is partly sandy, and partly loamy, and in some small tracts clay predominates: the small stones, or pebbles, are flint. Before I entered Windsor park, I observed, for the first time since I left Nottinghamshire, a range of rocks projecting a little above the surface of a barren common; the stone is hard, and of a whitish colour, and, I suppose, not fit for the purposes of building. From WALSLEY I followed the course of the Thames for several miles, which was extremely pleasant, and passed several neat houses and villages: among the latter, Bracknell, in my opinion, took the lead. This is very much a corn country, however I did not, in general, observe very weighty crops. The people were busy mowing grass, getting hay, and bringing home their fuel from the neighbouring heaths; they stack the latter in the form of small houses, as is the custom in Cumberland, and other northern counties. In this district I did not notice much woodland, except Windsor park; but a number of trees grow on hedges, particularly elm.

July 23, I went from READING to STREATLEY, in Berks, 11 miles. The road leads pleasantly along the side of the Thames: the banks are high, and the chalky cliffs strike the eye with a snow-like appearance, but in some places they are covered with wood. The soil is chalky, and not much of it remarkable for fertility: corn is the principal dependence of the farmer. The juniper bush grows spontaneously in the lanes: it is often a criterion of poor soil. Sheep are small. The seat of Sir Francis Sykes stands on a rising ground on the left. The surface of this district contains several high grounds, and very extensive commons, called Downs, which are covered with a green sward, and support a small breed of sheep. READING is a pretty large and populous town, and a thoroughfare towards Wales and Ireland. Small manufactures of sail-cloth, sack-cloth, gauze, ribbons, and pins, are

carried on here, but this does not seem to increase either the riches or number of the inhabitants much; it is chiefly built with brick and tile, and the houses are good, but many of the streets too narrow. STREATLEY is a farming village on the south side of the Thames, which, in the winter, often overflows its banks there, and does considerable damage.

July 24, went from STREATLEY to WALLINGFORD, Berks, 5 miles.—I continue to follow the course of the Thames towards its source: the road and country here extremely pleasant. Soil is loamy, and fertile in the production of corn, a great deal of common fields also appear, but the crops of wheat and barley thereon rather light. I have observed, for several days past, that almost every hedge is covered with a sort of plant very much resembling the hop plant; it grows up amongst the thorns luxuriantly, and has a sort of long-bearded grey, or white flower: the country people call it honesty, or the old man's beard. WALLINGFORD is a very ancient town; buildings of brick and tile, but low, and bear the marks of antiquity: most of the inhabitants are petty tradesmen. Farms in this neighbourhood are pretty large, one of which is rented for about 800l. a year; on that farm is an old barn, said to be the largest in England; it is 101 yards in length, and 18 in width, and was the repository for the abbot of Reading's tythes, who resided here in summer.

July 26, I went from WALLINGFORD to OXFORD, 12 miles. The soil a fine loamy clay, and in some parts a gravelly, or sandy loam. Crops of wheat, barley, and oats, the heaviest I ever saw; the surface level, but some rising grounds appear at a distance: fields are large and beautiful where inclosed, but several tracts of common-field continue to call aloud for inclosing. Sheep are hurdled on fallows, and sometimes fed with green clover thereon; bells are hung about the necks of several sheep in every flock; the reason assigned for so doing is, that if the flock should stray, they are easily found by the tinkling of the bells: I have also seen them tied to the necks of cows, probably for the same purpose: but why two or three bells should be hung to each horse in a cart, or waggon, I am at a loss to conjecture. I did not observe any flint stones in this district. Berkshire is noted for producing much corn; it, however, contains great quantities of common and downs, wholly uncultivated, and several tracts of poor soil. It is pretty well watered;

watered, rather an open country than otherwise, and somewhat hilly: farms are generally worth 100l. to 300l. a year. OXFORD stands on a plain, in a fine fertile country; its numerous churches, colleges, and other fine buildings, which overtop the city, give it a magnificent appearance, at a little distance. It contains thirteen parish churches; and, if I mistake not, eighteen colleges, is built with polished stone, of a whitish colour; the houses and other buildings are tall and elegant, and the streets wide, and neatly paved. In short, OXFORD is, in my opinion, the most pleasant and handsome town I have seen: it is the first town generally built with stone, which I have observed since I left Yorkshire. This city is almost surrounded with little streams of pure water, which contain a great deal of fish. These streams unite, and form a pretty large river, which, after watering a range of delightful meadows, falls into the Thames. OXFORD is chiefly supported by the colleges: the great number of students, most of whom are the sons of noblemen and gentlemen of fortune who reside here, occasions a great demand, not only for the necessaries but luxuries of life: its population does not appear to increase.

July 30, OXFORD to DODDINGTON, in Oxfordshire, 15 miles. An open, and not very fertile, country: the soil rather heavy, and has generally an under stratum of whitish freestone rock, which, in some places, rises very near the surface. In this district I observed some common, and a great deal of common-fields: the surface, in general, is pretty level, but some little prominencies are to be seen. Roads, in this country, are neither good nor easy, being made with the soft white stone, which is easily procured: these stones are broke upon the roads as in many of the northern counties. DODDINGTON stands on a rising ground, and is a pretty farming village.

July 31, DODDINGTON to BANBURY, in Oxfordshire, 6 miles. Road made with freestone, broken into small bits: that stone is very remarkable, from the great number and variety of petrified shells in its composition. I picked up several, which were quite entire, and had been completely incorporated with the stones which surrounded them; their substance also partook of that of the stone, but the shape and colour of the shells continue as before their petrification. The causes of these surprising effects I leave to the investigation of naturalists. The soil rather heavy; and roads, particularly towards

BANBURY, are bad. Wheat, barley, and beans, are much cultivated here. Cattle are heavier than in some districts I have lately passed, and the cows are remarkable for the thickness of their necks, a quality which is no indication of milk; but the farmers seem to pay little regard to that very wholesome and nutritive article of human food, which they give to the pigs rather than sell to the poor and labouring classes of people. Sheep are white-faced and legged, and want horns. BANBURY is a small and ancient market town: many of its buildings are poor, and the streets the worst I ever saw, being mostly unpaved and dirty in the extreme. A very fine new church is now building in BANBURY; but is not likely to be shortly finished, as the expence is found to exceed the first estimation so considerably, that money cannot yet be raised sufficient to complete the fabric. BANBURY manufactures worsted and hair shagg, but not in great quantities. Oxfordshire produces much corn, contains a great deal of open field, and some commons: soil generally strong, surface rather irregular; a considerable number of trees are seen, but the country not very woody. Two, three, or four horses draw one cart, and tinkle along the road with their bells in a whimsical manner: three or four of these animals are also yoked to a plough; they are generally heavy and strong. This county is pretty well watered, and enjoys a pleasant air, but is not remarkable for the goodness of its roads. Most of the buildings are of stone. Farms are of various sizes, but there are a great number of small ones.

August 2, BANBURY to SOUTHAM, in Warwickshire, 13 miles. Road very bad, it is made with broken stones. In this district, there is much land in pasture, some of which seems to have been used for that purpose at least 100 years, and is now almost covered over with hillocks, like ant hills, for want of cultivation. This manner of disposing of lands is equally pernicious and unprofitable with common-fields; but from contrary causes. The old pastures are employed in fattening bullocks, and it is said the land-owners are injudicious enough not allow their farmers the use of the plough thereon. Farms and fields seem large: the soil of this district is generally heavy, and surface pretty level: from the great number of trees on hedges, the country has a woody appearance. I have noticed here, as well as in most of those southern counties, that very few potatoes are grown, and

and that the labouring classes are little acquainted with their use. Potatoes are considered as a poor, weak, and unsubstantial food, and not sufficient to form the principal part of a meal. This is a great mistake; that sort of food must be allowed by all to be extremely cheap, and that it is also nutritive, is witnessed by thousands in the north of England and in Ireland, who make potatoes a great part of their food, and notwithstanding work as well, look as well, and are equally happy and content as those with more delicate palates in the south of England, and, I believe, more so. However, I am told, every where that there has been double the quantity, at least, set this year than in former years, and that the idea was suggested principally by the recommendations of the Board of Agriculture, which is one good effect of that excellent institution. **SOUTHAM** is a small market town, containing 750 inhabitants, who are farmers, labourers, and tradesmen. Farms in that neighbourhood are worth from 20l. to 300l. a year, but generally from 30l. to 50l.: average rent about 1l. an acre.

August 4, I went from **SOUTHAM** to **COVENTRY**, in Warwickshire, 13 miles. Road very bad most of the way; the soil is clay till within a few miles of **COVENTRY**, where a lightish sandy loam prevails; and the road there is also better. This district resembled the last I passed, except near **COVENTRY**, where the aspect of the country is more pleasant. Corn is there in great forwardness, I observed a field of oats cut for the first time this season, and some barley will be ready for the scythe in a few days. The country round **COVENTRY** is rather open, dry, and extremely pleasant, while the city is the most dirty and disagreeable I have seen; which is occasioned by the extreme narrowness of the streets, and high old houses with projecting fronts. Its population is estimated at 23,000 inhabitants. **COVENTRY** contains three parish churches, one of which (St. Michael's) has a spire 303 feet high. Coals are brought in here by means of a canal, and sold at present for 8d. per cwt. The staple manufacture of this city is weaving ribbons, a great deal of which is done by women; which they perform so quickly, that they usually weave about nine yards for 1s. Farms in the neighbourhood of **COVENTRY** let for 15l. to 500l. a year, but generally about 120l.: average rent of land 30s. or 35s. per acre.

August 7, **COVENTRY** to **BIRMINGHAM**.

HAM, in Warwickshire, 18 miles. Here I found pretty good roads made with gravel, the soil various, sometimes gravelly, sometimes a sandy loam, and sometimes clayey. The farms seem rather small in this district. The Warwickshire cattle resemble those of Lancashire; the sheep are a short white-faced breed, want horns, and continue to wear bells about their necks. I saw some double plows, somewhat similar to those used by Mr. Duckett of Ether Park. I do not recollect seeing a single plow drawn by a pair of horses since I left Suffolk, at which I am very much surprised; neither is a single horse-cart for the purposes of husbandry to be met with. In this day's journey I observed some fine red and white free-stone quarries close by the road, exactly like those in Cumberland, the first instance of the sort I have seen since I left the North. Buildings all along are very good, and generally of stone. The surface of the country is pretty level in general, rather open than otherwise, and contains a regular mixture of corn and grass land. **BIRMINGHAM** emits a cloud of smoke, which is seen at a distance before the town is discovered, which at last presents itself in rather a grim aspect; but the buildings have a noble and modern figure, and the whole has the appearance of a great magnitude. The road crosses a canal, not yet finished, a little before it enters the town. After having seen the principal parts of this "great toy-shop of Europe," I am struck with the increased demand for baubles, which occasions a great influx of wealth and of inhabitants; the consequences of which are, a rapid increase of elegant streets and buildings, as well as vice, immorality, luxury, and, partially, a most abject poverty. At present every thing is in a dead state, owing to the war, except muskets, bayonets, &c. The wages of manufacturers are extravagantly high when they have employ, but of which the numerous inn-keepers or ale-sellers reap the principal advantage, while the manufacturer too often ruins his health, his morals, and his family thereby, and is sometimes led to the most desperate acts. Such are the effects of drawing together a great body of men without education or principles, and which I have uniformly found to be the case, more or less, in all large manufacturing towns. Buttons, buckles, &c. are the staple manufactures of this town, with which articles it supplies most part of Europe; guns, pistols, swords, bayonets, and such like weapons of offence,

fence, are also made here in great numbers. Most part of the town of BIRMINGHAM is quite modern, and its population is said to be now near 70,000 inhabitants. Were that numerous assembly of people employed in cultivating the waste lands in the kingdom, they would render a much more essential service to the public in return for their support. This town stands in a fine, open, and very pleasant situation, and the country around it is cheerful: a canal, which communicates with different parts of the country, comes up to it. The streets are mostly uniform, pretty wide and clean, but not universally so. Coals are cheap and plentiful here, which is very favourable to the manufacturer. New buildings, and even new streets, are rising on almost every side of the town. An idea may be found of the progressive increase of inhabitants from the number of births and burials at different periods: in the year 1555 there were 37 births and 27 burials; in 1690 there were 127 births and 150 burials; and in 1791 there were no fewer than 3,310 births and 3,280 funerals.

August 11, I went from BIRMINGHAM to WOLVERHAMPTON, in Staffordshire, 14 miles. The country extremely populous, large villages filled with manufacturers of guns, pistols, locks, buttons, buckles, nails, &c. wages are very high, even the women in these manufactures earn considerably by filing. The war is useful to most of these businesses. The buildings in this district are good, made with brick and tile, but look dirty and black, as do the inhabitants, which is probably the consequence of their employ; the surface is generally level, the aspect of the country pleasant, rather open, but it is far from being destitute of wood. The soil various, but chiefly clay with a mixture of sand, and in several parts rather barren; but it abundantly compensates for that defect by affording plenty of fine coals, which are got close by the road. This is the first coal country I have met since I left the North. In travelling on this road, I was surprised to see a number of small fires burning in a field of oats; on enquiry I was told, that the field contained several old coal-pits, which, by some means or other, were set on fire, and could not be extinguished. Here are several large works for forging iron, which belong to Mr. Wilkinson, of Castlehead, in Lancashire. Warwickshire is much noted for iron and steel manufactures, but I did not observe any superio-

rity in its agricultural department: it contains several elegant seats of noblemen and gentlemen, parks, and tracts of woodland; its air is pure, water generally plentiful, and buildings good. The farms are of all sizes, but more land in small than in large ones. The surface of the country pretty level, with here and there a little elevation: soil contains much clay, but not, in general, of the most fertile nature, and it need not be repeated that it produces free-stone and coal. WOLVERHAMPTON is a large manufacturing town, and is supposed to contain near 20,000 inhabitants: its manufactures are chiefly the heavier sorts of hardwares, such as axes, gridirons, trowels, smoothing irons, locks, &c. there are also some manufactures of spectacle cases. The streets of this town are very narrow and dirty, but many of the houses are pretty good, and the surrounding country is pleasant. A canal comes up to this town. It is very remarkable that in these southern counties the poor and labouring classes of people have a great hatred to canals: these canals, say they, are the ruin of the country; the farmers by their means can send the corn, and other productions of their farms, where they please, at a trifling expence, and thereby keep up the prices; several respectable tradesmen also entertain the same sentiments, and further add, that canals spoil and destroy much good land. These people view the subject with a microscopic eye; for did they consider the effects of canals with respect to the kingdom in general, they would see that whatever contributes towards lessening labour, reducing the number of horses, and facilitating the conveyance of different articles from places where they are less wanted to other parts where they are more wanted, at a small expence, is a great national gain and convenience. If these navigations are occasionally abused in conveying corn more snugly out of the kingdom when wanted at home, the fault is not in the canals, but in the criminal negligence of the officers who are appointed to superintend the exportation business. I took a walk one pleasant evening into a field near Wolverhampton, and looking to the N. W. saw a mountain at a distance, and afterwards two or three more; these I understand were the Shropshire hills, and were the first eminences I had seen, that could be called mountains, since I left Yorkshire and Derbyshire.

(To be continued.)

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL POETRY.

ELEGY ON SPRING.

DELIGHTFUL spring, I taste thy balmy
gales
Pregnant with life, my sadden'd soul they
cheer,
Creation smiles, the woods, the hills, the vales,
Hail the pure morning of the new-born year.
Expand, ye groves, your renovated bloom;
Warble, ye streams; ye swelling buds unfold;
Wait all the plenty of your rich perfume;
And wave, ye florets, wave your leaves of
gold.
'Rapt in the maze of nature's boundless charms,
I gaze insatiate, wonder, and admire;
Ah, how they sooth th' impassion'd hearts
alarms,
And wake to transports short the woe-struck
lyre!
But soon the prospect blackens on the view,
These scenes of beauty, man, insensate, mars;
Cloar's smiling nature with a mournful hue,
Blasts all her blooms, and with her music
jars.
O might the moral spring but once evolve
It's infant blossoms 'mid the noontide blaze,
Barbaric passion's low'ring mists dissolve,
While dawn'd pure reason with serener rays!
O fool to think it! winter, bleak and foul,
There broods eternal; hope creates in vain
Fantastic forms, which cheer the cheated soul,
Poor air-built fabrics of the poet's brain.
See, life and health enliven all around,
O'erlawns and woods, the eye delighted roves;
While pour an artless harmony of sound
Flocks from the fields and warblers from the
groves.
Luxuriant verdure here adorns the plain,
There the grey fallows, and the toiling team,
The farms neat mansion, and the village fane,
Whose moss-clad tower reflects the solar
gleam.
But ah! while nature pours th' enlivening
breath,
Paints her fair forms, and spreads her trea-
sures here;
O'er other shores black sweeps the cloud of
death,
Glares the red falchion and the murderous
spear.
Ev'n now perhaps embattled armies meet,
Loud beat the drums, and thundering can-
non roar,
Rocks the dire field beneath unnumber'd feet,
And terror waves her locks bedropt with
gore:
Through dust, in whirlwinds driven, inconstant
seen,
Thick flash the swords, the frequent victim
falls,
While o'er his mangled trunk and ghastly mien,
Hests trampling ruth, where maniac fury
carls.
Say, soldier, say, grim spectacle of pain,
What lyren lur'd thee from thy peaceful
home,

To leave thy poor, thy small domestic train,
For toils of arms o'er billowy deeps to roam?
No beams of glory cheer thy hapless lot,
Thy name descends not to a future age,
Impell'd to combat for thou know'st not what,
And urg'd to slaughter by another's rage.
Thy widow'd wife, thine orphan children weep,
And beg their scanty meal from door to door,
While, gash'd with wounds, thy limbs dishonor'd
sleep,

And waste and moulder on a foreign shore.
In vain, alas, we boast of civil worth,
And vaunt of virtue, in religion's robe,
If calm we view ambition issuing forth,
Her brood of scorpions to infest the globe:
The bonds of nature we asunder part,
Led by the blaze of passions sanguine star,
Peace on the lips, and murder in the heart,
To savage, fell, accurst, infernal war.
Hark! a glad sound my wandering thoughts
recalls,
The distant sheep-bell fills the quivering
breeze,
The shade, slow-deep'ning, o'er the landscape
falls,
And veil'd in mists the dim horizon flees.
As the poor shepherd folds his fleecy care,
Loud chaunts the nightingale his evening lay;
Sing on, sweet warbler, homeward I repair,
Warn'd by thy requiem to the closing day.

SYDNEY.

Of the above elegy, the three first stanzas
are set to music by Mr. Wheeler, and the
12, 13, 14, by the Rev.—Richmond, of
Trin. Col. which will appear in the next
publication of the Cambridge Harmonic
Society.

SONNET.

SOFT through the woodland sighs the sum-
mer gale,
With many a hue the verdant landscape glows;
And breathing sweets along the cultur'd vale,
Steals the fresh fragrance of the blushing rose.
The roaring billows of the stormy deep,
Hush'd to repose, their hostile rage forbear;
And the low winds on the calm surface sleep,
Cooling the ardor of the tepid air.
No summer scenes, alas, no vermil bloom,
Sooth the sick soul, by every ill oppress'd:
To wander cheerless through the midnight
gloom,
To brave the terrors of the wintry blast,
(Whose swelling gusts ideal woes impart,)
Are scenes more fitted—for a broken heart.
Edinburgh.

AUGUSTA.

CONNAL.

AN ELEGY FROM A GAELIC FRAGMENT,
BY MR. C—Y.

AUTUMN has now assum'd her fading reign,
And the grey mists upon the hills remain;
On the wide heath the rapid whirlwind roars,
Dark through the narrow plain the torrent pours;
There,

There while its branches whistle as they wave,
That tree, O Connal! marks thy lonely grave:
On the bleak hill when wild winds howl around,
It strews its green leaves o'er thy hallow'd ground.

There if the solitary hunter go,
In silent musing melancholy, slow,
When the dim twilight spreads its veil serene,
The shrowded spectres stalk along the green.
Through rolling ages who thy fires can trace,
And who recount the fathers of thy race?
See the tall oak from yonder mountain rise,
And lift its leafy banners to the skies;
The lurid light'ning with tremendous glare,
Scatters its rifted banners in the air!
Thus, Connal! did thy family excel,
They rose, they flourish'd, and in thee they fell.
Mourful thy wars, O Fingal! 'midst the slain
Here Connal press'd the blood-enamelled plain;

Here was the din of arms, and stain'd with gore,

Here fell the mighty to arise no more.
Strong was his arm as tempests of the main,
His height, like rocks that overlook the plain;
His sword a meteor in the low'ring sky,
A fiery furnace glow'd his wrathful eye;
And loud his voice as when the surges roar,
With foamy billows on the founding shore;
In careless playfulness the thoughtless child
Crops the gay thistle in the flow'ry wild,
Thus Connal's falchion seal'd the warrior's boom,

His transient glories withering ere they bloom.

As rolling thunder in the noon-day skies,
Darg o the Mighty to the battle flies,
Dark and contracted was his fullen brow,
And his sunk eyes seem'd hollow caves below.
Bright rose their clashing swords with wild alarms,

And dire the clangor of refulgent arms.

Thy fair Cremona, heavenly maid! was near,
Daughter of Rival, master of the spear,
Who cas'd in mail had follow'd from afar
Each lov'd Connal to the din of war;
When her loose tresses negligently flow,
Her cautious hand sustains the quiv'ring bow;
On her now she draws the erring dart—
Ah, hapless maid! it cleaves thy Connal's heart.
Is the giant-oak, the valley's pride,
Ted rocks roll down the mountain's side.
In deep despair th' unhappy virgin strays
Thro' tangled paths and unfrequented ways,

While chilly vapours shroud the moon's pale beam,

All while she wanders by the murmur'ing stream;
Al, my love! Connal, my friend! she cries,
She sinks—she faints—she trembles—and—she dies.

He re, earth, thou dost the loveliest pair inclose,
That ever slept in undisturb'd repose;
Within thy chilly bosom, here reclin'd
Thy memory rushes on my musing mind,
And while the salt tear trickles from mine eyes,
The wild wind whistles, and the rank weed sighs.

MONTHLY MAG. XXVII.

SONNET

TO THE OWL.

I WOO thee, cheerless melancholy bird,
Soothing to me is thy funereal cry,
Here build thy lonely nest, and ever nigh
My dwelling be thy fullen wailings heard.
Amid the howling of the northern blast
Thou lov'st to mingle thy discordant scream,
Which to the visionary mind, may seem
To call the sufferers to eternal rest;
And sometimes, with the spirit of the deep,
Thou swell'st the roarings of the stormy waves,
While rising shroudless from their watry graves,
Aërial forms along the billows sweep!
Hark, loud, and louder still, the tempest raves,
And yet I hear thee from the dizzy steep.
Edinburgh. AUGUSTA.

AN IMITATION OF A CANTATA OF METASTASIO.

COME pensive fair, whilst soft approaching night

O'er weary'd nature draws her silent shade,
From ocean's mirror, view departing light,
Whilst varying forms in closing darkness fade.

Plac'd on a rock, which ocean gently laves,
Mark the slow changes of the less'ning sail,
Whilst cooling zephyrs slightly curl the waves,
Enjoy the sweetness of the passing gale.
Yon azure vault bright twinkling gems adorn,
Their borrow'd lustre gilds the envious deep,
Along her studded path pale Cynthia's borne,
Whose icy beams upon the billows sleep:
Leave then, fair nymph, your flock and shady bow'r,

And share the transient glories of the hour.
L. E.

BOTANY-BAY ECLOGUE.

EDWARD AND SUSAN.

Time, Evening.

SUSAN.

WHY, Edward, hangs thy head in silent grief,
Why will thy stern repentance shun relief?

Still heaves thy restless bosom with the sigh?
Still dwells on vacancy thy rigid eye?
Lov'd of my soul, from fruitless sorrow cease,
And let thy Susan soothe thy soul to peace.

EDWARD.

Oh fly me, fly me! leave me to my fate,
Reproach me with my crimes, and learn to hate!
Leave me each woe so well deserved to prove,
But do not, Susan, wound me with thy love.—
Why, heavenly justice! must this angel share
The anguish I alone deserve to bear?
Why, was she doom'd to tempt the dangerous sea,

Or why united to a fiend like me?
Ye blasting tempests, rush around my head!
Ye heaven-wing'd lightnings, strike this monster dead!

Spirits of hell! come end this life of woe,
Come drag your victim to the fires below!

SUSAN.

SUSAN.

Nay, Edward, sink not thus in vain distress,
Torturing my heart with needful wretchedness;
Hadt thou been doom'd, an outcast wretch,
to go

Where endless winter piles the plain with snow,
I would have lull'd thee even there to rest,
Pillowing thy sorrow on thy Susan's breast.
Or were we lent to sojourn on some shore,
Where the woods echo to the lion's roar,
Though danger scream'd in every passing wind,
Still I were blest if Edward were but kind.
Here we are safe, on this pacific shore
No tigers prowl, no mighty lions roar,
No howling wolf is heard, nor secret brake
Conceals the venom of the coiling snake;
Indulgent heaven a milder brood bestows,
A milder clime to soothe the exile's woes.
Soft as in England, smile the summers here,
As gentle winters close the dying year;
Nor here is heard th' autumnal whirlwind's
breath,

Nor vernal tempests breathe the blast of death.
Could I one smile on Edward's face but see,
This humble dwelling were the world to me.

EDWARD.

Ah, Susan! humble is indeed this cot,
And well it suits the outcast's wretched lot;
Well suits the horror of this barren scene,
A mind as drear as comfortless within.
'Tis just that I should tread the joyless shore,
Lift to the wintry tempest's fullen roar,
Plough up the stubborn and ungrateful soil,
Earn the scant pittance of a felon's toil,
And sleep scarce shelter'd from the nightly dew,
Where howls around the dismal Kangaroo.
This I have merited, but then to know
Susan partakes her barbarous husband's woe,
Unchang'd by insult, cruelty, and hate,
Partakes an outcast's bed, a felon's fate,
To see her fondly strive to give relief,
Forget his crimes, and only share his grief—
And then on all my actions past to dwell,
My crimes, my cruelties—'tis worse than
hell.

SUSAN.

Oh spare me, spare me! cease to wound my
breast,
Be thou content, and we shall both be blest.
What are to me the idle's gay resorts,
The buz of cities and the pomp of courts?
Without one vain regret to call a tear,
To wake one wish, I feel contented here;
And we shall yet be happy: yonder ray,
The mild effulgence of departing day,
As gayly gilds this humble dwelling o'er,
As the proud domes on England's distant shore;
As brightly beams in morning's op'ning light,
As faintly fading sinks in shadowy night.

EDWARD.

Sink, glorious sun! and never may I see
Thy blest radiance rise again on me!
There was a time, when cheerfully thy light
Wak'd me at morn, and peace was mine at night,
Till I had lavished all! till mad with play,
I turn'd a villain, from the villain's prey;
Till known and branded—Oh that heaven
would hear
My heart's deep wish, my last and only prayer!

Soon would I change existence with delight,
For the long sleep of one eternal night.

SUSAN.

Ungrateful man! for ever wilt thou be
The cause of all thy Susan's misery?
For thee, yon waste of waves I travers'd o'er,
For thee forsook my friends, my native shore,
And I could here be happy—

EDWARD.

—Oh forgive

Th' impatient guilty wretch that lothes to live!
Forgive me, Susan, if my tortur'd mind
Will dwell on happier scenes long left behind:
The lenient hand of time perchance may heal
The guilty pangs, the deep remorse I feel.
And though thy husband in his happier state
Thy virtues knew, and would not imitate,
This humbl'd heart at length may learn of thee
To bow resign'd beneath calamity.

Oxford.

W. T.

LAURA LEAVES ARTHUR, TO MAKE A VISIT
TO A FRIEND BY THE SEA-SIDE.

"TRUST not," he said, "the dang'rous sea,
Which smiles too often to deceive,
"Ah! dearest Laura, think on me,
"Nor once the safer sand-beach leave."

Laura's fond heart, too full to speak,
To Arthur sigh'd a soft adieu!
Love's gentle tear stole down her cheek,
As Arthur mournfully withdrew.

Laura, at evening's hour serene,
Lov'd by the morn'ring sea to stray;
And there, by all unheard, unseen,
To faithful love her homage pay.

In vain her gay companions sought
To tempt her on the smiling main,
"I cannot e'en," she said, "in thought,
"Give Arthur's heart one moment's pain."

"O then, forbear to urge me more;
"Beneath yon cliff's impending brow,
"I'll for your safe return to shore,
"To ev'ry Nereid off'ring's vow."

Impatient Arthur, from the cares
Of worldly bus'ness now releas'd,
With ardor to the spot repairs,
Where all his cares in rapture ceas'd.

With beating heart, and salt'ring tongue,
"Where is my Laura?" Arthur cries—
"Wandering, the sea-bound shore along"—
Like light'ning, Arthur thither flies.

"Beneath yon cliff, there sits my love!"
But ah, fond youth! no more for thee—
The mountain-torrent bursts above,
And bears its victim to the sea.

O'erwhelm'd with grief, long Arthur stood,
And on the cliff still fix'd his eye;
Then madly cry'd, "In yonder flood,
"Shall Arthur with his Laura die."

"It is by my ill-omen'd care,
"That Laura finds a wat'ry grave,
"I see, I see yon boat's crew there,
"Securely ride the briny wave."

"They land! and with them Laura's friend!
"Again I hear the torrent roar,
"See her t'wards me her footsteps bend,
"Oh heaven!"—he fell, and rose no more.

ANNABELLA PLUMPTRE.
ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL ANECDOTES AND REMAINS

OF

EMINENT PERSONS.

[This Article is devoted to the Reception of Biographical Anecdotes, Papers, Letters, &c. and we request the Communications of such of our Readers as can assist us in these objects.]

SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF THE LATE
JOHN WILKES, ESQ.

HIS present majesty ascended the throne of these realms amidst the plaudits of his subjects. His elevation was accompanied by a series of auspicious occurrences, and every appearance augured a fortunate and happy reign. A change in the dynasty had taken place in favour of his family, and the doctrine of popular election, by a practical and memorable exemplification, was justly preferred to a pretended hereditary right. But George I was unacquainted with our laws, and even with our language. These circumstances, added to his partiality for Hanover, and the enactment of the Septennial Bill (the first infringement on public liberty during the reign of a house expressly called in for its protection) rendered him at times unpopular. The latter part of the reign of George II was uncommonly brilliant; but he also was accused of an over-weening fondness for his electoral dominions, and considered, even on the throne, as a foreigner.

A happier fate attended his grandson, who, in his first speech, gloried in being "born a Briton." His youth, his graceful person, the memory of a father dear to the nation, and, above all, the early promise of a government founded on the practical blessings of liberty, endeared the new king to his people. Indeed, there is not a single instance in all our history, of a prince, who attained the throne of these kingdoms with brighter prospects; it was accordingly predicted, in the fervour of enthusiasm, that the sway of a Trajan, or an Alfred, was to be renewed in the person of George III.*

* One of the first acts of his majesty's reign was uncommonly gracious. By the demise of a king, the patents of the judges were considered as having expired; but this gross defect was remedied by the generous interposition of the young prince. A sincere regard to truth obliges the writer to acknowledge, that in this instance, one good, wholesome, constitutional advice, has been attributed to the late W. Murray, earl of Macclesfield, Chief Justice of the King's Bench, &c.; and the merit would have been still greater, had it been entirely

His majesty found the country engaged in a just and fortunate contest with the house of Bourbon. The war was conducted by a statesman who proved uncommonly successful in subduing the armies and navies of France; for we pointed the thunders of an united nation, with terrible and irresistible effect on its humbled monarchy. A change of men and councils, indeed, saved the enemy from utter ruin; but this very circumstance gave a decided turn to the current of popularity, which had hitherto flowed around, and afforded a sacred barrier to the throne.

On the retirement of William Pitt, 1761, majesty seemed thorn of its rays; and its lustre being intercepted by the sudden interposition of a malignant planet, it appeared to experience almost a total eclipse! The secret views that led to the peace of Paris are still enveloped in obscurity, and the particular motives which superinduced so many sacrifices are, at best, but equivocal. It was, indeed, in some measure, sanctioned by a majority, obtained by means not difficult to be guessed at in a venal age; but it proved the most sinister treaty in our annals, and, from a variety of circumstances, became peculiarly odious to the nation.

The administration of the earl of Bute gave general disgust. Close, insinuating, cunning, rapacious, and revengeful, he was said to have enjoyed the unlimited confidence of his royal master, and the people affected to consider him as the minion of the crown, rather than the minister of England. His enemies, however, could not deny that he was amiable in private life; the most zealous of his friends, on the other hand, must confess, that, if not criminal, he was at least unfortunate,

disinterested. Some persons are so little acquainted with our history, as to imagine that before this period, the commissions of the judges depended on the will of the crown. The fact is otherwise; nothing more was gained than has been stated above. The parliament that brought Charles I to punishment introduced the maxim followed at this day, respecting the patents of the bench, which are to endure *aut vita, aut culpa*.

in the management of public affairs, and that the jealousies which he occasioned between king and people, gave rise to many if not all the misfortunes of the present reign. Certain it is that his conduct created a most formidable opposition, bottomed on constitutional motives, and that the most zealous advocates for the house of Brunswick, entrenching themselves in the revolution principles of 1688, combated the doctrines and proceedings of the favourite, with the same zeal that their ancestors had opposed the tyranny of the house of Stuart. It was this singular circumstance that gave birth to the political career of the subject of these memoirs; and not only his own biography, but the history of the present times, is intimately connected with the foregoing events.

The father of Mr. Wilkes was an eminent distiller in Clerkenwell, where John is supposed to have been born, on the 28th of October, 1725. The elder son Israel, who is still alive, followed the same business, and ultimately failed. The second, of whom we now treat, and who had received a liberal education early in life, was a brewer; but as he had, in a great measure, become unfitted by classical pursuits from obtaining wealth as a tradesman, it is more than probable that he would not have succeeded in his commercial pursuits. For, is it possible to suppose, that the enthusiastic admirer of the elegant Tibullus, should relish the dull round of business, in the neighbourhood of St. Sepulchre's? that he who banished care like Anacron, and daily quaffed the Falernian of Horace, should pay such a sedulous attention to the process of fermentation, and be conversant in all the properties of two-penny-porter, and brown-stout? Disgust, accordingly, soon succeeded, as a necessary consequence, and the golden dreams arising from the mingled fumes of hops and malt, vanished with the mash-tub and the computing-house.

Mr. Wilkes was calculated, by nature, education, and habit, for far different pursuits, and he soon gratified his inclinations. Having married a daughter of the celebrated Dr. Mead, the author of the *Treatise on Poisons* we find him exchanging the dull and foggy atmosphere of the city for the thinner and politer air of the west end of the town. Possessed of a genteel fortune, elegant manners, and a sparkling wit, he easily obtained the acquaintance of many of the most fashionable people of the age. Educated in Whig principles, he was at the same time an ardent assertor of Eng-

lish liberty. It was the latter circumstance, indeed, that gave a colouring to the future pursuits of his life; to the former, he was indebted for a seat in parliament, and a regiment of militia.

A standing army has always been considered as the opprobrium of liberty, and a disgrace to a free country. To counterbalance this palpable defect in the system (for it is not inherent in our polity) some generous spirits conceived the idea of a national and constitutional defence. This plan, so long scouted, and since, in a great measure, emasculated by subsequent regulations, was at length carried into effect, but not without much opposition, and considerable dissatisfaction on the side of the people.

Mr. Wilkes, who was a great stickler for the measure, made an offer of his services in Buckinghamshire on this occasion; and as he lived in great intimacy with earl Temple, the then lord lieutenant, he soon became member for Aylesbury, and colonel of the county regiment. It is to be recorded among the other singular anecdotes of his life, that nearly at the same time, he was expelled from the one office by the House of Commons, and dismissed from the other by a mandate from the first executive magistrate.

The member for Aylesbury soon participated in the general resentment against lord Bute, and, possessing a happy talent for satire, contributed not a little to increase the hatred which he had every where excited. But this was not all; in the bitterness of his resentment, he accused the nation, among whom that nobleman was born, of an hereditary attachment to slavery, and, without much ceremony, attacked certain persons, who fondly hoped that their rank was not only too lofty for plebeian animadversions, but even dissolved all connection between guilt and shame.

Mr. Wilkes began his career, as an author, in 1762, and his first political publication, at present known with certainty, was intitled, "*Observations on the Papers relative to the Rupture with Spain.*" On the 5th of June, in the same year, he became the editor of a periodical paper of much notoriety, called the "*North Briton*," which gave a particular turn to, and not only influenced, the future progress of his affairs, but actually decided the tenour of his whole life. No publication that ever came from the English press was read with more interest, or circulated with greater avidity than this, the

the Letters of Junius, and the works of Paine, alone excepted. Nor were the effects disproportionate either to the end with which it was launched on the ocean of popular opinion, or the high expectations that were conceived of its success. It was in vain that the ministers attempted to oppose its progress, by means of the "Briton" * and the "Auditor;" the latter of which was conducted by Mr. Murphy, a man of considerable parts, who, in the course of his variegated life, has defended the arbitrary principles inculcated by a Tory administration, and presented us with a Whig version of Tacitus. His pen, however, on this occasion, was made to drop from his hand, by the mere force of ridicule alone, and his journal itself expired in the flames of his own *Floridaturf* †. He, however, did not fall alone, for his patron soon lay prostrate by his side; and although he was suspected of regulating the motions of the ministerial puppets long after he left the stage, yet, so obnoxious had he rendered himself, that, from this moment, he was forced to bid adieu, at least, to the ostensible exercise of power.

The *Tbane* was succeeded by Mr. Grenville, the father of the present lord Grenville and the marquis of Buckingham; who, partly from hatred to the author, and partly from animosity to his own brother, with whom he had quarrelled (he is also said to have been instigated by another motive) determined, if he could not suppress the publication, that he should, at least, punish the editor.

* Smollet was the editor.

† Such as wish to be better acquainted with this instance of *literary jockeyship*, are referred to a note in p. 52, vol. 1, of Bell's second edition of Churchill's works, or to the North Briton. Here follows the epitaph occasioned by the discomfiture of the "Auditor;" and it may be necessary to premise that this event was produced by a waggish letter signed "*Viator*," in which the advantages derived from the possession of Florida (obtained by the peace of Paris) are ironically pointed out, particularly the peats and turf, that were *to warm the poor American planters in the winter season!*

SISTE, VIATOR.

"Deep in this bog, the Auditor lies still,
His labours finish'd, and worn-out his quill;
His fires extinguish'd, and his works unread,
In peace he sleeps with the forsaken dead!
With heath and sedge, oh! may his tomb
be drest,

And his own turf lie light upon his breast."

Et quocunque voluit animum Auditoris agunto.
HOR.

The crown-lawyers were accordingly on the watch, and some unguarded, perhaps, improper expressions in No. 45—for I write not an eulogium—afforded ample opportunity for a prosecution.

It has luckily been always the fortune of arbitrary councils, not only to render the means disproportionate to the end, but to have recourse to odious measures for the attainment of their object. It was this very circumstance, that, in one age, bereaved Charles of his life, James of his crown; and, in another, endeared Mr. Wilkes to the nation.

Had a common action taken place against the editor of the North Briton, and, after due conviction, a moderate sentence been inflicted, Mr. Wilkes would have been branded as a recorded libeller. It was the illegal proceedings which occasioned that gentleman to be considered as a suffering patriot, through whose sides the liberties of a whole nation were wounded. His, therefore, from that moment, ceased to be a private cause—it was the cause of the people.

On the 50th of April, 1763, he was arrested in the street, by a king's messenger, in consequence of a *general warrant**, against the authors, printers, and publishers of the North Briton, No. 45, and carried to his own house. The publicity of the act having occasioned much noise, he was instantly visited by a number of his friends, and, among others, by Charles Churchill, a fellow-labourer in the political vineyard, whom he saved from imprisonment, by that presence of mind which never deserted him on trying occasions. In the mean time, he desired two other gentlemen to repair to the court of Common Pleas, and sue out a writ of *Habeas Corpus*, in consequence of his being detained a prisoner in his own house, by an illegal arrest.

As lord Halifax did not choose to pro-

* (Copy)

L. S. "George Mountague Dunk, Earl of
"Halifax, Viscount Sunbury, &c.

"These are in his majesty's name to authorize and require you (taking a constable to your assistance) to make strict and diligent search after the authors, printers, and publishers of a seditious and treasonable paper, entitled the North Briton, Number 45. Saturday April 23d, 1763, printed for George Kearsley, Ludgate-street, London, and them or any of them having found, to apprehend and seize, together with their papers, and to bring in safe custody before me, &c.

"Directed to Nathan Carrington, &c.

(Signed)

"Dunk Halifax."

med

ceed directly to extremities, he sent several polite messages to Mr. W. requesting his company; but the latter resolutely refused, and could not be prevailed upon to repair to his lordship's house, until he was threatened with personal violence, and given to understand, that a regiment of guards would, if necessary, be called in. On this, he proceeded in a chair, attended by the messengers and their followers; he, however, refused to answer any questions whatever, and treated lord Egremont, the other secretary of state, who exhibited too much of the insolence of office, in his demeanour, with great spirit.

On his being committed to the Tower, he was pressed to offer bail; but he strenuously refused, as it would have looked like an acquiescence in the injustice of the proceedings against him, although two noblemen offered to become sureties to the amount of 100,000*l.* each. In consequence of strict orders for that purpose, he was kept a *close prisoner*; and earl Temple, and the rest of his friends, denied access to him, until two *habeas corpus* were issued, the first having been evaded by chicanery. At length, on Tuesday, the 3d of May, he was brought up to the bar of the Common Pleas, where, in an apposite speech, he complained of the violation of the laws, and asserted, that he had been treated worse "than if he had been a Scotch rebel."

The court having taken time to deliberate, he was remanded, and brought up once more, on the 6th, when the lord chief justice, sir Charles Pratt, afterwards lord Camden, ordered him to be discharged. Flushed with this victory, in the course of that very night, he wrote a bitter and sarcastic letter to the two secretaries of state, in which, after recapitulating the circumstances relative to the seizure of his papers, he demanded the restitution of them, under the title of "stolen goods," and actually applied to Bow-street, for a warrant to search their houses, in order to recover possession of his property, which had been *feloniously* taken away. It may be easily supposed, that a magistrate, under the immediate influence of the ministry, refused his countenance to this proceeding; but recourse was soon had to a higher authority, and ample satisfaction received.

While Mr. Wilkes was yet in the Tower, unlawfully imprisoned, and unconvicted, therefore, in the eye of the law, supposed to be at once innocent and oppressed, he was doomed to experience

all the rigour of royal vengeance, having been actually dismissed from his situation of colonel of the Buck's Militia, by a mandate*, with which the lord lieutenant reluctantly complied. But this was not all; an attempt to disgrace, was soon followed by another, calculated to ruin him: it proved, however, contrary to all human calculation, to be the basis on which he erected the edifice of his future fortune.

In the course of next term, an information was filed against him, in the King's Bench, as author of the North Briton, No. 45; and, on the meeting of parliament, being voted "a false, scandalous, and seditious libel," it was ordered to be burned by the hands of the common hangman; a sentence which was carried into execution, with much difficulty, in the city; when Mr. Sheriff Harley, who displayed great zeal on the occasion, was mal-treated and even wounded by the populace.

Mr. Wilkes having, in his turn, complained to the house of a breach of privilege, was not only refused redress, but a resolution passed, "that the privilege of parliament does not extend to the case of writing and publishing seditious libels, nor ought to be allowed to obstruct the ordinary course of the laws, in the steady and effectual prosecution of so heinous and dangerous an offence."

Some words that passed on this occasion, in conjunction with a passage in the North Briton, occasioned a duel between Mr. Wilkes and Mr. Martin, member for Camelford, and late secretary to the Treasury, which took place in Hyde Park, the 16th of December. The representative of Aylesbury behaved with great gallantry on this occasion, and the wound he received in the groin greatly increased the number of his partisans, who were pleased with his spirit, and considered him as a martyr in the public cause.

Soon after he found it necessary to retire to France; but this did not in the least tend to abate the vindictive spirit of

* (Copy)

"My lord, Whitehall, May 4, 1763.

"The king having judged it improper, that John Wilkes, Esq. should any longer continue to be colonel of the militia for the county of Buckingham, I am commanded to signify his majesty's pleasure to your lordship, that you do forthwith give the necessary orders for displacing Mr. Wilkes as an officer for the militia, for the county of Buckingham."

"To the Earl Temple."

"I am, &c.

"EGREMONT.

his

his enemies: for on the 19th of January, 1764, we find him expelled the Commons, and a new writ was immediately ordered to be issued for Aylesbury. The House of Peers also thought its privileges violated, in the persons of the bishop of Gloucester, whose name had been affixed, as editor to an obscene pamphlet, printed at Mr. Wilkes's private press, and exhibited a remarkable resentment on that account. In addition to this, he was found guilty, in the court of King's Bench, of the republication of the "North Briton, No 45, with notes," and for printing and publishing the "Essay on Woman." Of the first of these productions, he was avowedly the editor; but as to the second, which is a parody on Pope's Essay on Man, he was no farther criminal than by allowing twelve copies to be printed at his apartments: the real author was a son of an archbishop of Canterbury! In both instances, the works in question were obtained by the basest fraud, his own servants having been bribed and suborned for that very purpose.

At length, a change of ministry having taken place, and the parliament being dissolved, Mr. W. returned to his native country; and notwithstanding the terrors of an outlawry, actually stood candidate for the first city in the empire, and only lost his election by a small majority. He proved more successful in the first county, as he was returned a knight of the shire for Middlesex, after a great and decisive contest.

The violated laws were, however, still to be atoned for, and, accordingly, the new member, with his usual intrepidity, voluntarily surrendered himself, in the court of King's Bench, on April 20th, 1768; and on Saturday morning, June 18th, sentence was pronounced; in consequence of which he was imprisoned for twenty-two calendar months, and obliged to pay a fine of 1000*l.* He found means, however, to get his out-lawry reverted*, and this was accomplished with less difficulty than had been expected, as lord Mansfield, who, on great occasions, exhibited evident symptoms of timidity, was alarmed at the odium attached to all those concerned in the proceedings, and did not, perhaps, think the

bench itself, although surrounded by mace bearers and tipstaves, sacred from the fury of an incensed multitude.

No sooner was this necessary preliminary achieved, than the action against lord Halifax, who had hitherto pleaded the out-lawry as a bar, was recommenced, and a verdict of 4000*l.* obtained. This sum, together with 1000*l.* recovered from Mr. Wood, the under secretary of state, and the amount of the verdicts, damages, and costs of suit, were all paid out of the civil list, by an express order of council!

To balance the victory, he was doomed to suffer a fresh prosecution. His long and rigorous imprisonment having ensured the indignation of all liberal and independent men, and enflamed large bodies of the populace to a degree of frenzy little short of madness, many riots took place, and St. George's-fields became the scene of much confusion. There were two legal modes of proceeding in this case. The first, most gracious and assuredly most politic, would have been a spontaneous exercise of the royal mercy, which, by its extension to the prisoner, would have dissolved the associations entered into for his protection and support, and left him without complaint, and, consequently, without adherents. The second was the constitutional employment of the civil power, in order to keep the peace, and, in case of infraction, to punish the offenders. A third was, however, resorted to, unknown to our ancient laws, equivocal in its nature, and problematical in its application; this was the calling in a military force, a measure strenuously recommended by lord Weymouth, then secretary of state, and as warmly combated by Mr. Wilkes. This produced a second expulsion, and as one injustice naturally leads to another, gave birth to the nomination of Mr. Luttrell, now lord Carhampton, as the sitting member for Middlesex, although Mr. Wilkes was duly returned by the sheriffs, and fairly elected by an immense majority.

If he was excluded however from parliamentary, civic honours poured thick upon him. While immured within the walls of a prison (in 1769) he was elected alderman of Farringdon Without, the most considerable and patriotic ward in the metropolis. Two years afterwards, he aspired to and obtained the dignity of the shrievalty, and in 1774, he was elevated to the city chair. In all these different relations, he exercised

* A similar case to that of Capt. Perry, still languishing in the prison of Newgate, had not then occurred, or it might have been urged as a precedent! The situation of this gentleman is particularly hard.

cised the magisterial functions, with great spirit and integrity, and in the last of them he incurred fresh * debts, by supporting the honour of his station.

While oppressed by the accusation of ministers, the gale of popular attachment set in strongly in his favour, and he was never so great, or perhaps so happy, as when afflicted by the persecution of the court. His cause was supported by the best and ablest men in the kingdom; his debts were more than once paid by the generous care of his friends, and every immediate want was anticipated by the ardour of their bounty †. But this was not all: they were determined to procure him a more permanent provision, and accordingly started him as a candidate for the lucrative office of chamberlain of the city of London. Mr. Hopkins however prevailed, notwithstanding his character was tainted respecting some money negotiations with a minor; and an annual contest took place until his death, which occurred in 1779, since which period Mr. Wilkes occupied that situation, for the remainder of his life.

During the whole of the American war, he was a strenuous opposer of lord North's administration, and heartily joined his own personal enemies in opposing the measures, and displaying the guilt of that justly odious statesman. No sooner was the noble lord hunted into the toils, and brought within the reach of a punishment, from which he escaped, in consequence of the eagerness displayed in dividing the spoils of the delinquent, than Mr. Wilkes seized that opportunity of procuring justice to the public and to himself, respecting the Middlesex election. The day this scandalous decision was rescinded from the journals of the house of commons, may be said to have been the last of his political career. Indeed, from that moment, he seems to have supposed his *mission* at an end, and in his own express words to

* These were the only debts incurred in the public service, and I understand that they have been all liquidated.

† Among other presents received by him was a cup of 500l. value, made by Mr. Stephenson, of Ludgate hill, on which he caused the following lines to be engraved:

"Proud Buckingham, for law too mighty grown,
A patriot dagger prob'd, and from the throne
Sever'd its minion. In succeeding times,
May all those favourites who adopt his crimes
Partake his fate, and ev'ry Villiers feel
The keen deep searchings of a Felton's steel."

have considered himself as an "extinguished volcano!"

In his person, Mr. Wilkes was tall, agile, and so very thin towards the latter part of his life, that his limbs seemed cadaverous. His complexion was fallow, and he had an unfortunate cast of his eyes, that rendered his face particularly liable to be caricatured. The ministry of that day were so sensible of the advantages to be derived from this species of ridicule, that Hogarth * was actually bought off from the popular party, by means of a pension, and earned a dishonourable reward, by employing his graver in satirising his former friends. Notwithstanding the defects of his person, Mr. Wilkes at one time actually set the fashions, and introduced *blue hair powder*, on his return from France in 1769.

Towards the latter part of his life, he became regardless of his dress, and his wardrobe for the last fifteen years seems to have consisted of a faded scarlet coat, white cloth waistcoat and breeches, and a pair of military boots, in which he was accustomed to walk three or four times a week, from Kensington to Grosvenor square, and from Grosvenor square to Guildhall. Like most of the *old school*, he never descended from the dignity of a *cocked hat*, and it is but of late that he abjured the long exploded fashion of wearing a gold button and loop.

His ready wit was proverbial, and he never missed an opportunity of being jocular, at the expence of his colleagues. Sometimes he would disconcert the gravity of a city feast by his satire; and when he told the late alderman Burnell, (formerly a bricklayer) who seemed to be unable to manage a knife, in the sim-

* "When that great charter which our fathers bought,
With their best blood, was into question brought,
When big with ruin, o'er each English head,
Vile slavery hung suspended by a thread,
When liberty, all trembling and aghast,
Fear'd for the future, knowing what was past,
When ev'ry breast was chill'd with deep despair,
Till reason pointed out that Pratt was there,
Lurking most ruffian-like behind a screen,
So plac'd all things to see, himself unseen,
Virtue with due contempt saw Hogarth stand.
The murd'rous pencil in his palsy'd hand
What was the cause of liberty, to him,
Or what was honour? let them sink or swim,
So he may gratify without control,
The mean resentments of his selfish soul:
Let freedom perish, if to freedom true,
In the same ruin Wilkes may perish too."

Churchill's epif. to Hogarth.
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ple operation of cutting a pudding, "that he had better take his trowel to it!" he set the whole corporation in a roar.

As a man of pleasure, he sacrificed to his passions, not unfrequently, at the expense of his happiness, and even of his character. The scandal attached to the order of St. Francis *, of which he was a member, operated considerably against the influence of his politics; it is not a little remarkable, however, that men, not the most famous for the *ebullition* of their manners, such as the lords Sandwich and March (the latter is the present duke of Queensbury) should have been the most eager to detect and expose the follies of his looser moments.

It cannot be denied, that his conduct as a magistrate was not only unexceptionable, but spirited and exemplary; and as a guardian of the morals of the city youth, he has not been excelled by any of his predecessors. The same candour that dictates these observations, obliges the author at the same time to confess that he was dilatory in the production of the city accounts, and rather too attentive to the emoluments of office.

As an author, he possessed the singular merit of always writing to, and for, the people. His success was proportionate, and he actually *wrote down* at least one administration, which is more than can be said of any man of the present age. His merits can only be appreciated by the benefits he has conferred on his country. It was he who first taught the public to consider the "king's speech" as the mere fabrication of his ministers, and as such, proper to be commented on, ap-

* The motto over the door of Medmenham Abbey, must be allowed to have been extremely appropriate; it was

Fais ce que voudras.

plauded, or treated with contempt. By his bold and determined conduct, in the case of the city printers, he annihilated the power of commitment assumed by the speaker's warrant, and rendered the jurisdiction of the serjeant at arms, subject to the control of a constable. He punished despotic secretaries of state, by holding them up to public scorn, abolished general warrants, and obliged even lord Mansfield to declare them unlawful. But this was not all; he contributed to render an *Englishman's house his castle*, for it is to him we are indebted for the benefit of having our papers considered as sacred, in all cases short of high treason. The most daring minister must now particularise his victim by name, and he cannot attempt to rob us of our secrets, without at the same time endeavouring to bereave us of our lives!

In short, with all his faults, Mr. Wilkes possessed something more than the *vapour* of patriotism; he could face poverty and banishment, despise a jail, resist corruption, attack and overcome tyranny. Had his existence ceased at the close of the American war, his memory, however, would have been more respected; he outlived his reputation; and it is painful to add, that when he died at his daughter's house in Grosvenor square, on Tuesday, December 27, 1797, in the 73d year of his age, he was nearly forgotten. Distance blends and softens the shades of large objects: Time throws her mantle over petty defects. The present age already confesses that he was a persecuted, the next will probably consider him as a great, man. At all events, his name will be connected with our history, and if he does not occupy the chief place, a niche, at least, will be tenanted by him in the temple of Fame.

THE NEW PATENTS,

Enrolled in October, November, &c.

MR. CARPENTER'S, FOR BLEACHING PAPER.

THE discovery made in France, by M. Bertholet, of the efficacy of oxygenated muriatic acid in expediting the process of bleaching, has been successfully carried into effect by many of our own manufacturers and artists. Mr. COOPER, late of Manchester, now of Northumberland, in America, was, we believe, the

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first person in this country who applied the discovery to practice: his example was soon followed by many manufacturers in Lancashire and Scotland, who have obtained patents for different contrivances to regulate the application of the acid gas: the most important of these have been already detailed in our former numbers, under the head of *bleaching*, in which it will be found, that not

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only

only the linen, but the *paper manufacture* has been essentially benefited hereby.

Formerly writing paper could be made of *unprinted* linen alone, but by means of the process of Mr. Bertholet even printed linen may be made into the finest and whitest paper. The present patent is the last that we shall detail on this subject, except in case of some essential improvement in the process or instrument made use of. It was granted to Mr. ELIAS CARPENTER of Bermondsey, Surrey, and is entitled a *Method of Bleaching Paper in the Water Leaf, and sizing it without drying.*

In the preparation of the pulp, the coarser rags are to be macerated for two or three days in a caustic alkaline ley, and wrought into sheets of paper, in the usual way; a strong wooden box or trough is then to be procured, of a size proportioned to that of the paper, lined on the inside with white paint, and furnished with several stages of cross bars of glass: the bottom of the box is to be covered with a stratum about one inch deep of caustic ley, and the paper laid by quarter-reams, or less, across the glass bar. A hole must be made in the box to admit the beak of an earthenware retort, into which must be put manganese and sea salt, in powder, sulphuric acid, and an equal quantity of water impregnated with the steams of burning sulphur (sulphureous acid).—The cover of the box is to be made airtight by luting or slips of paper dipped in paste. The apparatus being thus prepared, the belly of the retort is to be plunged in water, kept boiling, and in a short time the oxymuriatic acid gas will be driven into the box, will penetrate the paper, and render it of a dazzling whiteness, while the alkaline ley at the bottom will, by gradually absorbing it, prevent its becoming so concentrated as to destroy or injure the texture of the paper. From three to four pounds of sulphuric acid will suffice for one hundred weight of paper, and the operation will be completed in about eight hours. The sheets as they are taken out of the box are to be sized with the following mixture:

To 1cwt. of clippings of skin add

14 lb. of allum, 7 of calcined vitriol, and 1 lb. of gum arabic, with a sufficient quantity of water to size 50 reams of fools-cap.

The same method will serve equally well to clean engravings or printing, for though the oxymuriatic acid discharges all stains, dirt, &c. yet it is incapable of acting on printers' ink.

MR. WEDGWOOD'S, FOR MAKING OF GLASS.

IN November, 1796, a patent was granted to RALPH WEDGWOOD, of Burslem, Staffordshire, for a new composition for glass. The two extreme quantities for the materials, are given in the following formula; for according to the required hardness of the glass will be the proportions to be made use of. From 10 to 50 lbs. of pearl-ash are to be dissolved in from 12 to 20 quarts of water; to which are to be added from 3 to 10 lbs. of borax, dissolved in from 10 to 50 quarts of water: of Paris plaster, or lime, are to be added from 40 to 100 lbs.; of flints, or any pure quartz stone, powdered, from 50 to 100 lbs.; of pounded barytes from 5 to 10 lbs.; and of broken china, or fine earthenware, from 50 to 150 lbs. (Instead of this last, from 80 to 100 lbs. of baked clay may be added). All these materials are to be ground into a smooth cream-like consistence in the common mill, then evaporated to dryness, afterwards melted in a full white heat, and poured into water. The glass thus prepared is used either by itself, or mixed with different colouring substances.

MR. WEDGWOOD'S, FOR PLATING EARTHENWARE.

Together with the above patent is enrolled one, taken out at the same time by the same person, for an improvement in the manufacture of earthenware. To a plate of soft unbaked coarse pottery clay, is applied on each side a thin plate of china, white ware, or cream-coloured; the three plates are then united firmly to each other by means of a press: afterwards the mass by rolling is brought to a proper thickness, and shaped in moulds in the usual way.

V A R I E T I E S,
LITERARY and PHILOSOPHICAL;
Including Notices of Works in Hand, Domestic and Foreign.

* * * Authentic Communications for this Article are earnestly solicited from all our Friends.

MESSRS. ROBINSONS are about to publish a Work of considerable Importance and Curiosity to the political world: "Letters and Correspondence, Public and Private, of the Right Hon. Henry St. John, Lord Viscount Bolingbroke, during the time he was Secretary of State to her Majesty Queen Ann, with State-papers, explanatory notes, and a translation of the foreign letters, by GILBERT PARKE, Chaplain to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales." This work will appear in 2 volumes quarto, and at the same time in 4 volumes octavo, to suit the several editions of Lord Bolingbroke's Works.

MR. BELSHAM, the author of the History of Geo. III. and of the House of Brunswick, has just completed his History of England, from the Revolution, where Hume ends, to the accession of Geo. I. It will be published with his preceding works in 4to. and 8vo.

MR. BLAIR, of Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury (Surgeon to the Lock Hospital and Asylum, and the Old Finsbury Dispensary) has recently circulated a printed Letter among his medical friends in London, inviting them to concur with him in an attempt to ascertain how far the cure of a genuine syphilis may be trusted to the anti-venereal powers of nitrous acid, oxygenated muriate of potash, or any of the other remedies of analogous constitution, which have been lately recommended by several practitioners as substitutes for mercury?

From an hint contained in that letter, it may be expected that Mr. BLAIR will soon present the world with some Observations and Cases on this Interesting subject. We are informed that he is likewise preparing a much more extensive work, in which he has been some time engaged, viz. an Enquiry into the Natural History and Medical Treatment of the Venereal Disease, in all its Forms and Stages, from the earliest period to the present time.

DR. GILLIES has announced for publication, in the course of this month, A Translation from the Greek of Aristotle's Ethics and Politics, comprising his Practical Philosophy. Dr. G. has illustrated

the Work by Introductions and Notes, and by a new analysis of the Speculative Works of the celebrated Greek Philosopher.

DR. JOHN WILLIAMS has published Proposals, for printing by Subscription, Græco-Barbara Novi Testamenti; or, Oriental and other Foreign Words occurring in the New Testament, selected and illustrated by MART. PETR. CHEITOMÆUS, translated out of the Latin Original, with additional Words, and Notes, Critical and Explanatory. To which will be prefixed, a short Dissertation on the Hebrew Vowel Points.

MR. J. SYMONS, of Hackney, intends to publish in a short time, A Systematic Pocket-Flora of indigenous plants, to be intitled *Synopsis plantarum insulis Britannicis indigenarum*.

A very useful Medical Work, consisting of Popular Cautions to Young Soldiers, and Gentlemen Volunteers, who may be called into the Field in the present Crisis, is in the press, and will be published about the close of February.

MR. DYER has in the press a volume of Descriptive and Rural Odes.

The interesting annual publication, announced in our last, under the title of "*The Spirit of the Public Journals for 1797*," will make its appearance in the course of February.

A monthly work is announced for publication on the first of March, addressed to ladies of fashion and quality, and to milliners, &c. &c. to be called *The Magazine of the Fashions of London and Paris*. Each number, price one shilling, is to contain six beautifully coloured figures, three of London and three of Parisian Ladies, in the most prevailing dresses of month.

We mentioned in a former number that Dr. Beddoes had recommended to Messrs. Bowles and Smyth, surgeons of Bristol, to give a course of anatomical lectures.—The principal design of these lectures was to exhibit the structure and economy of the human frame, and to point out those accidents and disorders to which it was most liable, together with the best means of guarding against them. But Dr. Beddoes, conceiving that it was

impossible these objects should be fully obtained, whilst women, the guardians of our childhood, were excluded, suggested to the before-mentioned gentlemen, the plan of a new course, accommodated to a female audience. Many ladies, with a becoming zeal for useful information, have been forward in promoting this design, and there is no question of its ultimate success.

Dr. Beddoes intends to deliver a course of chemical lectures at Bristol; exhibiting on an extensive apparatus, the general principles of chemistry, with the improvements which have been made at different periods in this valuable branch of study. The proposal was made at the earnest solicitation of a few friends.—Doctor B. proposed a course of chemical lectures at three guineas the course, to consist of about thirty; but as he wished the point to be speedily decided, he mentioned in his advertisement that unless *one hundred* names were given in the first fortnight, he should altogether relinquish the design. More, however, than that number were given in the first week!

Among the books recently published at Madrid, the following are the most deserving of notice:

Origin of Castilian Poetry, in one volume, quarto. This work is divided into four parts, the first of which examines the sources from whence the Castilian poetry has been drawn; namely, the poetry of the primitive Spaniards, and the Latin, Arabic, Provençal or Limosin, Portuguese, and other poets.

The Origin, Progress, and Stages of Castilian Poetry.

An Examination of whatever belongs to the Origin of Spanish poetry, in each of its principal Kinds in particular.

Collections of Castilian Poetry, the comments and notes by which it has been illustrated, and the translations in the Castilian tongue from the poets of other nations. The whole terminated by a complete list of the Castilian poets.

Index to the work, entitled "Literary Memoirs." This work is published in numbers, making three volumes yearly. It made its first appearance at the commencement of 1791.

The World, a Dream. This is a satire on the manners of the present age. It describes men as they are, and points out to them what they ought to be.

The cultivation of rice is still continued in many parts of the kingdom of Valencia, in Spain, notwithstanding repeated prohibitions. DON ANTONIO JOSEPH CAVANILLES, in his valuable work on the *Natural History, Geography, Agriculture, Population and Vegetable Products of the Kingdom of Valencia*, has entered into a very interesting discussion of

the important question, whether the cultivation of this grain ought to be totally proscribed in Spain, on account of the fatal consequences attending it. To determine this point, he takes a review of the maladies occasioned by its cultivation, which requires a swampy soil, and at the same time a sultry climate. He gives a table of the births and deaths, from the year 1730 to 1787, in the different places in which the cultivation of rice has been practised. The result is, that during the space of fifty-eight years, there have been born 42,022 children in the places where rice was not cultivated, and only 36,248 where the cultivation of rice was carried on. On the other hand, during the same period of fifty-eight years, 39,595 persons have died in the places where rice was grown, and only 29,630, in the places where it was not cultivated.

Among the branches of science most successfully cultivated in SWEDEN, appear to be political history, geography, physics, natural history, and rural economy. The Swedes are rich in geographical and marine charts. The first volume of the Marine Atlas, published in 1795, by the vice-admiral NORDENANKER, is justly entitled to particular commendation. In the theological department, a new translation of the Bible, patronized by the late Swedish monarch, and undertaken at his particular instance, is preparing for the press, and now actually in a state of great forwardness. Of this translation, an *Essay*, by way of prospectus, appeared in 1772. The * new version of the Psalms of David, by the learned DR. TINGSTADIUS, may likewise be considered as a specimen and appendage to this grand undertaking. In the same year (1772) WARMHOLZ published the seventh volume of his *Bibliotheca Historico-Sueco-Gothica*, which completes that learned and instructive work. GANANDER published at Abo, in 1789, a *Mythologia Fennica*; and there has appeared very recently the first part of the new edition of PAUL JUSTEN's Chronicle of the Bishops of Finland. As translators, the Swedes translate a great number of German books, but comparatively very few from the French and English languages. The first *Literary Journal*, which made its appearance in Sweden, was published by Doctor OLAUS CELSIUS, in 1742. Since that

* An English translation of Tingstadius's Version appeared in London about four years ago. Though little known, it contains many valuable and important novelties.

period the number of works of this description has amazingly increased. Sweden boasts two academies of sciences, the one established at Stockholm, the other at Upsal. There is, likewise, a patriotic society of Agriculture; another society *Pro Fide et Christianismo*; another for Physics and Natural History, at Lund; a society of Fine Arts and Sciences at Gothenburg; another society bears the denomination of *Utile Dulci*; and lastly, there is the Swedish Royal Academy, founded in 1786. The principal object of this latter society is to purify and perfect the Swedish language. It likewise causes a medal to be struck regularly every year for some illustrious Swede. Of all these various societies, the two first named are the only ones which publish periodical Memoirs of their transactions.

RUSSIA, with respect to the sciences and polite arts, has made astonishing progress within these few years. Catharine II created a particular commission to superintend and direct the schools, settle the method of tuition, and to take particular care to form good instructions. Since this arrangement, three different schools are established in each government; an inferior school, in which reading, writing, and arithmetic, are taught; an upper school, or college, in which written exercises are composed, geography, national history, &c. taught; an university, where all species of knowledge may be acquired. There are at present universities at St. Petersburg, Moscow, and Kiow; and the most celebrated colleges are at St. Petersburg, Moscow, Kaffan, Riga, and Revel. The college of Mittaw is about to be changed into an university. Several academies, and assemblies of learned men, arduously co-operate in disseminating scientific intelligence. These are attached to the Imperial Academy of Sciences at Petersburg, the Academy of the Russian Language, the Academy of Arts, the Economical Society at Petersburg, &c. Catharine II sent to the German universities such young persons as manifested happy dispositions for learning. She also invited to Russia foreigners who were eminent for their erudition. She has, in fact, so judiciously disposed of things, that all branches of the sciences are cultivated by the Russians. The whole number of Russian publications, including some translations, did not, however, four years ago, amount to more than 4000 volumes; the fifth part of these works treating of politics, economics, morals, history, and geography.

ARANEOLGY. It is well known, that many animals are influenced by natural electricity, and extremely susceptible of every variation of the atmosphere. Of these, none are more affected than the garden-spider. To M. Quatremier d'Isigonval, aid-de-camp general of the French and Batavian army, the world are indebted for the important discovery of being able to rely on garden-spiders, with as much, if not more confidence, than on the catgut or mercurial barometers. The garden-spider, according to his observations, have two ways of working, according to prevailing, or rather future, weather. If the weather is to be rainy, or even windy, they attach sparingly their principal threads, which suspends their whole fabric, and thus they wait for the effect of a temperature, which is about to be very mutable. Spiders, like barometers, possess not only future, but a more distant presentiment than these, concerning what is about to take place in the atmosphere. A good barometer will foretel the weather until the next day; but when the spiders work with long threads, there is a certainty of having fine weather for twelve days, or a fortnight, at least! When they are idle, it denotes rain or wind; when they work sparingly, it prognosticates changeable weather; but when they work abundantly, it may be regarded as a sure forerunner of fine weather. As soon as the spider is perceived incessantly renovating the web, destroyed by the continual effusions of rain, it not only is a criterion of their being of short duration, but also denotes a speedy return of a greater permanence of fine weather. We find, at the end of the Araneological Calendar, of M. Quatremier d'Isigonval, a declaration, signed by the staff of the French and Batavian army, by which these officers certify, that in the month of November, 1795, M. d'Isigonval announced to general Pichegru, upon the faith of his new discoveries, that the ensuing summer would supply him with all the means of terminating the campaign, and that this bold prediction, in a season abounding with snow and hail-stones, was realized in the commencement of December, on account of the mildness of the weather. M. Quatremier d'Isigonval has just established *araneories* in Paris.

The municipality of Mantua have given a general invitation to artists to furnish the design of a monument intended to be erected in honour of Virgil, at Petecolum, the place where, according to tradition, that

that excellent poet was born. The sides of the monument are to bear the following four inscriptions. First inscription:

Primus ego in patriam mecum (modo vita superfit)

Aonio rediens deducam vertice musas:

Primus Idameas referam tibi, Mantua, palmas.

Second inscription:

— Olim

Nec spes libertatis erat, nec cura peculi.

Third inscription:

— Nunc

O Melibæe, Deus nobis hæc otia fecit.

Fourth inscription:

Natali Pub. Virgilii Maronis sacrum.

The Theophilanthropists have founded a school under the title of *Ecole Théophilanthropique*, in which the young pupils receive instructions in writing, arithmetic, the elements of the Latin tongue, French grammar, history, geography, &c. They are likewise taught the relative duties which they owe to God, to their parents, to their country, to all their fellow creatures, to themselves. No elementary books on religion will be put into their hands but such as have or shall receive the sanction of, and be adopted by, the society.

Citizen Coulomb, some time since, caused several large poplars to be cut down on his estate. It was in the spring season, and the sap had begun to mount into the branches, which were covered with new leaves. As he was inspecting the workmen, he noticed that one of the trees, on being cut nearly through to the centre, emitted a sound similar to that produced by air bubbling from the surface of water. He perceived that this noise, as well as the discharge of a limpid and tasteless liquid, did not take place till the trees were nearly cut through to the centre. This led him to surmise, that the sap in large trees was only imparted to the branches by the medullary canal in the centre, with which the branches have a direct communication. To ascertain this point, he caused several large poplars to be pierced with a borer, when it appeared, that, within a certain distance of the centre, the instrument remained nearly dry; but no sooner did it penetrate to the middle, than a watery substance was emitted in great abundance, accompanied with the bubbling noise before mentioned. This effect was regularly produced on every repeated experiment during the summer, the sound, as well as the liquid emitted, bearing a due proportion to the precise degree of heat, and consequent transpiration of the foliage. At night, and during cold, damp days, very little effect was discerned.

From these experiments it should seem, that the only circulation of the sap in trees is effected by the parts which border on this central medullary canal, by means of the infinite number of horizontal *radii*, at the extremities of which the buds are formed, which establish a successive communication with the central canal. This communication, of course, augments in exact proportion to the growth of the bud till it becomes a branch.

Dr. Reimarus, correspondent of the Hamburg society, having remarked, that a few drops of belladonna dissolved in water, and applied to the eyes, cause the pupil to dilate in so extraordinary a manner, that the iris is nearly reduced to nothing, was led from this circumstance to suggest the propriety of having recourse to this expedient, preparatory to the operation of couching the eye for a cataract. Of this intimation Dr. Grasmeyer, who practises this operation with great skill at Hamburg, has made a very successful experiment. The effect produced by the solution in question on the eye, continues about half an hour, affording, by the dilatation of the pupil, an excellent opportunity of performing the operation, without danger of hurting the iris; and the palsy, if it may be so termed, which invades the retina, prevents the baneful consequences which otherwise might accrue from too sudden accession of light.

Bothe, of Magdeburg, is engaged upon a new critical and exegetical edition of the works of Plautus. A specimen, which he has already published, of his undertaking, proves him completely qualified for the task, and possessed of great critical knowledge.

Gerard Vrolick, professor of physic and botany, at Amsterdam, has published a dissertation, at Leyden, on the annual defoliation of trees and vegetables; in which he maintains, that the leaves of trees have a distinct vegetable life, characterized by different periods, though connected with the life of the parent tree, and in some measure dependant thereon. On the annual return of the period of defoliation, the leaves drop off and perish with age, but the life of the stock subsists. He maintains that the dead leaves detach themselves from the branches by the same laws which cause any mortified part of an organized body to separate itself by the absorption of the live particles immediately connecting the decayed and healthy members. To prove this assertion, he cites examples from organized animals, which, as well as vegetables, possess many parts endowed with a distinct and separate

life. Thus, for instance, the fœtus of frogs are furnished on the sides of the head with organs of respiration, analogous to the gills of fishes. These organs in a short time become indurated, die, and drop off, before the *individuum* has attained to the perfect developement of its existence. The horns of stags, which fall off and renovate every spring, complete in the space of a year all the successive periods of their distinct life; but a series of years is necessary to achieve the different periods of the existence of the animal.

Some remains of a Roman antiquity have been lately discovered at Nîmes, in France, in consequence of an order given by the municipality to demolish a parapet to a convent of Dominicans. Under the parapet was found a Corinthian entablature, the cornice of which was much impaired. On the frieze, which was in tolerable preservation, was this inscription, engraved in the stone, with holes to retain the metal which had been melted into it:

IMP. CÆSAR. IVL. F. AVGVSTVS.

COS. XI. TRIB. TEST. VIII.

PORTAS. M. ROS. DA.

In the third year of the republic, the director of the military hospital, of his own authority, overturned the inscription, so that many parts of it were dashed to pieces. It was not then suspected that under the entablature there existed an antique edifice, which was the reason that almost all the architrave was taken away at first; but the municipality having perceived, by the demolition of a small part of the modern wall, which served as a lining to the ancient one, the appearance of Corinthian capitals, they ordered all the modern wall to be demolished, the architrave to be repaired with as much care as possible, and the frieze on which was the inscription to be replaced. They also caused the earth to be raised again up to the ancient pavement, and a wall to be built at the distance of six feet from the monument, in order to secure it from injury. The ancient edifice is twenty-five feet seven inches in height, and sixty-one feet six inches in length, frontwise (*en façade*) not including two round towers, nineteen feet in diameter, at each end, and forming an *avant-corps* of nine feet. Four pilasters, twenty-eight inches wide by twelve inches in projection (*de saillie*) with a column in the wall, the whole of the Corinthian order, divide the overtures of the monument, in which are yet founded, 1st, two large porticoes, full arched, in the centre, having twelve feet overture, and separated from the impost to the architrave by a column which rests upon a cupola, level with the im-

post; 2d, two other porticoes, also full-arched, of six feet overture each, over which is a semi-circular niche, covered by great stones decorated with mouldings, which answer to the architrave. The form of this edifice, to judge of it by what remains, indicates a fortrelis, which the Romans had ornamented with all the elegance of architecture. Some of the connoisseurs imagining it to have been a capitol.

More than 300 medals of the latter æra of the Roman empire, in high preservation, have been lately dug up in the neighbourhood of Is-sur-Tille; among which are the following:

A. D.

117. Two medals of *Lucila*, wife of *Ælius* Cæsar.

138. Two ditto of *Fausina*, wife of Antoninus.

138. Two ditto of *Antoninus*, emperor; on the reverse a figure seated on a globe.

There are four more medals of the same emperor, but not with this device.

161. One medal of *Marcus Aurelius Antoninus* Pius; on the reverse three figures.

161. Two medals of *Fausina*, wife of Marcus Aurelius, and daughter of Antoninus.

180. One medal of *Grishina*, wife of the emperor Commodus.

The discoverers of this new historical treasure have been invited to bestow them towards the enrichment of the cabinet of medals belonging to the central school at Paris.

[The following Letter, by some accident reached us too late, to appear in its proper place.]

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

IN the collection of observations on nitrous acid, now in the press, and of which the first (and perhaps the second) century will appear in March next, I shall have the satisfaction of producing evidence from very various and distant quarters. I shall give a second letter from Mr. SCOTT of Bombay. The positive evidence is such as appears to be incapable of being invalidated by negative; especially as the facts to be brought forward will account to a certain extent for the general failures that are said to have been experienced in some places.

Some correspondents, who are advantageously situated, have been obliging enough to vary their trials considerably; and even to extend them to gonorrhœa.

I am, sir, yours,

Clifton, Jan. 1, 1798. T. BEDDOES.

P. S. I have seen great service from the nitrous acid in hepatic and dyspeptic cases. Several facts of the same nature have been generally mentioned to me. If particulars were transmitted to me, I would print them as an appendix to the Siphylitic Collection.

DESCRIP.

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW INDIA-HOUSE IN LEADENHALL-STREET.
(With an Engraved Elevation.)

THIS handsome edifice, constructed under the able direction of R. Jupp, Esq. is from east to west 190 feet in length. The principal story is plain sunk rustic, with five circular-headed windows in each wing. The portico, from a Grecian example (the temple of Minerva Polias at Prienè.) Upon the centre of the pediment of the portico will be an emblematical figure of *Britannia*; on the east side

Asia; on the west *Europe*. On the key-stones of the windows of the principal story within the portico are to be heads in relief, emblematical of the greatest rivers in India. The story over the principal story is neat, and occupied in the old building the height of two stories. The whole is to be covered with handsome balustrades.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE
OF FRANCE.

Notices of the Memoirs presented to the Institute, during the last Quarter, communicated in the Public Sitting of Oct. 16th, 1797.

CLASS OF MORAL AND POLITICAL
SCIENCE. BY DAUNOU.

MERCIER read some observations upon the contents of the *Petits Augustins*, or *Museum of French Monuments*. CREUZE LA TOUCHE read a discourse upon *philosophical Intolerance* as well as one upon *religious Intolerance*: TOULONGEON, a memoir, intitled, *The Influence of a National Observance of a dietetic Regimen upon the political Condition of such Nation*: and RÆDERER a dialogue upon the following question: *Is it possible to unite men so perfectly in society, that they have no occasion for Chiefs to control them, nor for coercive Laws?*

LEVESQUE in an ideological memoir upon some acceptations on the word *Nature*, did away the abuses which are made of this word, in the three ways it is usually expressed: *The Man of Nature, the Religion of Nature, and natural Law*. Man, according to Levesque, never ceases to be the man of nature. It is true, that in passing through the different periods of the social state, he successively acquires the ideas they suppose, or inspire; but the progressions which he makes therein, are only those which nature permits, or even which she commands him to make at the periods which she herself has fixed. The intellectual faculties, which the progress proportions to itself, at the different ages of each society, were made the object of another memoir, wherein TOULONGEON descanted in the way of an analysis, upon sensations and ideas. He compared the faculties purely intellectual with those of the sensitive, distributed over the surface of the human body; and he has entered largely into those relations, which are found to exist between the one and the other.

The titles of *men of genius* have been given to those in whom it has been believed that thought, more exerted, more strong, or more happy, had suddenly enriched the arts and the sciences with useful and illustrious creations. But has there truly existed a man of genius? MERCIER has put it in doubt; and in two memoirs which he read to the class, he expatiated on the sense, and explained the motives, of his opinion.

He admits among the mental capacities, sensible inequalities, very discernible shades: he further acknowledges that the sciences and the arts in their course from age to age are enlarged and perfected. Discoveries are made, inventions are proclaimed; but, according to MERCIER, they are never on a sudden, and therefore, of consequence, no one ought to be considered as the work of an individual. It is to the human understanding he is willing we should render homage, and not to the understanding of an individual. That which we call invention is (says the author) only a succession of trials and attempts which follow each other, more or less easily or laboriously, in the course of many ages; and the man to whose name one is wont to attach all the glory, would find it difficult to recognize all the attributes of the work imputed to him, or even to comprehend the lessons of those who believe themselves, and above all, call themselves, his disciples.

Among the causes which are wont to exert an influence upon the progress of the human understanding, public instruction is, without doubt, the most powerful. This has been the object of a work in which MENTELLE has reconciled the various considerations upon primary schools, with those of the central schools. The law and the in-

struction

struction established by it, ought to have no connection with the various religious worship: MENTELLE has given to this maxim, an expansion which was never less superfluous than in the circumstances under which he read his memoir. He requires that the instruction be directed, above all, towards science, duties, and manners: he desires that the public teachers become the guardians of morals, and that they perform, even in the heart of the countries where they may reside, some of those kind, sometimes for the fulfilling of which; the ministers of worship were formerly called upon. Continuing to occupy himself about the central schools, MENTELLE combats the project of essentially changing the system of these new schools.

DEILLE DE SALLES read a memoir, entitled *The Three Kinds of Morality*. Of man, considered individually; considered with relation to his country; and with his relation to all other countries; or, as may be said, of the human species. The three moral considerations, among which bad political institutions have often established fatal oppositions, tend (according to our author) to harmonize together, according as the *social science* advances towards perfection.

A Roman law limited the power of devising by will, and tended above all, to keep women out of succession; this was called *Voconia lex*. The learned are not agreed about the extent of the dispositions of this law, concerning which the establishment, or abrogation, must necessarily have had so considerable an influence upon society, as to render it worthy of examination. BOUCHAUD, after having made known the author, and the epoch of the Voconian law, applied himself to determine its chief principle, and to give its true sense. He has discovered what was the punishment incurred by those who contravened this law; and has pointed out the divers modifications it successively underwent, until it was entirely abolished.

A country filled with great events, upon record, and which is again become the object of great expectation, *Italy*, has furnished ANQUETIL, with the subject-matter of two memoirs. In the first he has treated of the History and Character of the different Governments of this heretofore so distinguished part of Europe. He has considered the political interests of Italy in general, and

of each of the particular powers existing within her limits. The second memoir offers a picture of the productions of Italy, of her manufactures, of her commerce, of the privileges and restraints which favour or shackle it.

FLEURIEU read, during several sittings, various fragments of a relation of a Voyage round the world, made in 1790, 1791, and 1792, by CAPT. STEPHEN MARCHAND, commanding the ship *Solide*, fitted out by the house of *Beaur*, at Marseilles, to establish a traffic in Peltry, on the north-west coast of America. In an introduction, which precedes the narration of this Voyage, Fleurieu sketches out a brief history of the discoveries in the north-west of America; since FERNANDO CORTEZ, down to Stephen Marchand. This period of two centuries and a half, includes the expeditions of Coronado, of Drake, of Fuca, of Admiral Fuenti, those of Cook and of Peyrouse, and in short, those of many other navigators, as well Russian, Spanish, English, and Americans. In retracing summarily the ancient discoveries, of which some were almost forgotten, and the modern navigators, which have extended the sphere of commercial speculations, Fleurieu applies himself to reduce to a just value, the hopes which the first were capable of inspiring; and the fruits which have been gathered from the second: he seeks to unfold the motive which has determined each expedition, and ascertain the successive increase to the stock of human knowledge which has resulted from them all; and thus, through this introduction, the history of the discoveries to the north-west of America is blended, as it were, with the political and commercial history of Europe.

The voyage of Captain Marchand is the second voyage round the world, undertaken and accomplished by the French; until that time Bougainville had had in France neither a model nor an imitator. Fleurieu has compared this relation with a journal, kept by Chanel, second captain of the *Solide*, and who, in the course of the voyage was employed in reconnoitring the coasts, in elevating plans, and in astronomical operations. Fleurieu has farther made use of a journal of Roblet, first surgeon of the ship, but in working upon these various memoirs, the author has compared the recitals which they contain, with the relations published by the Spanish and English navigators. The work includes,

besides, a great number of descriptions, many nautical and geographical discussions, with political and commercial considerations. In a short extract of a work of this extensive nature, we can only rapidly trace the route which Captain Marchand took :

The *Solide* set sail from Marseilles the 14th December, 1790, and after having doubled Cape Horn, came to in the port *Madre de Dios*, in the island of St. Christina, one of the isles of the Archipel de Mendoca, discovered by Mandana in 1595, and visited by Captain Cook in 1774. In quitting these islands, and making way for the north-west, Captain Marchand discovered, in this direction, a second Archipelago, until then unknown. Thence, after having taken a plan of this new cluster of isles, the ship run before the wind towards the north-west coast, and they anchored in the Bay of *Guadalupe des Espagnols*, named since by the English, *Norfolk Bay*, and a traffic for skins and furs was entered into. The *Solide* next visited *Queen Charlotte Islands*, to which the English have added also this name, although Peyrouse made the first discovery of it in 1786. The season was too far advanced for Captain Marchand to continue to trade on the coast of America. He resolved to go to China : after having passed through the Sandwich Islands and the group of Marianne Isles, he let go the anchor at Macao.

An imperial edict had just prohibited the introduction of furs in China. He was compelled to renounce the design of exchanging the cargo for the merchandize of Asia. Thus after having repaired and victualled the ship, Captain Marchand betook himself by the *Straits of Gassa*, and by those of the *Sunda* to the port in the north-west side of the *Ile de France*. There he let the crew enjoy some repose, who, during thirteen months and a half, had kept the sea, and had been but thirty days in harbour all that time. The *Solide* left the *Ile de France* the 11th of April, 1792, touched at the Island of St. Helena the 4th of June, and, on the 13th of August, cast anchor in the road of Toulon.

This voyage is remarkable for the shortness of time the *Solide* took up in making the tour round the world, in taking her route by Cape Horn, and making her return by China. The duration of the voyage was only 608 days, and even only 498, if we subtract the days passed in harbour ; and the space run over, is 14,328 sea leagues, or 18,000 common leagues.

It is farther to be remarked, that in the course of twenty months, in the midst of fatigues and privations, inseparable from an expedition of this nature ; traversing all the climates, experiencing all the variations of the temperature, the *Solide* out of fifty men, which composed her ship's crew, lost only one man, who died in a fit of apoplexy.

It became necessary to awaken the attention of the French navigators to the use, too much neglected among them, of astronomic methods. This relation, which the press is going to render public, will show them that it is to the constant employment of the exact methods, adopted by Captains Marchand and Chanal, that they owe the safety of their courses, the shortness of their voyage, and the advantage of making land with precision upon those points which they designed to touch at.

COLLEGE OF FRANCE.

On the 15th of November last, this institution opened its course of study, in the presence of the minister of the home department, the greater part of the foreign ministers, and a full assemblage of spectators.

The sitting was opened by Poissonnier, who pronounced an eulogium on this ancient asylum of the sciences, which, since the time of Francis I, has constantly produced great men, and which, like a rock, always immovable amid the storms and tempests of the revolution, has survived the ruin of all the other establishments.

Lalande proceeded to describe the situation of the exact sciences, their progress, the discoveries made in them, and the labours of learned and scientific men during the last year.

François, assisted by his wife, Lalande's niece, observed, during the last year, 6,000 new stars, which brings the number of those hitherto observed to 42,700. These astronomers trust that they will soon be enabled to carry them to 50,000.

A new comet, discovered this year, brings to ninety the number of those whose orbits have been calculated up to this time. Tables of the moon, published by Delaplace, and an analysis of the great labours executed to complete the measure of the earth, make up the inventory of astronomical acquisitions.

A letter from Buonaparte to Lalande was read. In this letter, the general assures him that the funds of the society of Verona will be respected, and that its observatory, damaged by the bomb-shells, will be repaired. Buonaparte farther states

states that he has made a present of an astronomical clock to the society of Milan.

The following pieces were read. A Dissertation on the Ancient Nation of the Arcadians, by Dupuy. A Fragment on Xenophon, by Gall. A Treatise, by Coffin, on the Richness, Copiousness, and Advantages of the Greek language. Another, by Bocquillon, on the Greek and Latin Languages. A Discourse, by Cousin, on Education, and Republican Institutions. And, lastly, a Poem, by Gournand, on the Four Seasons of Life.

Lalande closed the sitting, by paying a public tribute of gratitude to the great services rendered to the learned this year, by the Prince of Peace and the Portuguese ambassador, and to their zeal in the furtherance of the sciences.

LYCEUM OF FOREIGNERS.

On the 21st of November last, this society opened its sittings. The wish to revive the arts and industry, to excite emulation, and more especially, to offer resources to literature, has determined the administration to make new sacrifices. To obtain these objects, it has considered that a society of the most distinguished literary men, united to the different professors,

who have secured the success of this establishment, would concur successfully, and bestow on it a new lustre. A Committee of literature will accordingly be especially charged to examine the works which authors will be invited to send to the Lyceum. The pieces which shall be approved by the Committee, will be read each decade (in the course of every ten days) in a sitting set aside for that purpose. At the commencement of each half year, a subject for a prose discourse will be proposed, and the prize distributed in the course of the half year. The authors whose productions shall be read three times at the Lyceum, will be presented with an admission for the season. Those who shall have obtained a prize, will have a perpetual admission as members of the society. In the first quarterly courses, the following subjects will be treated: Treatise on Epic Poetry, by Mezover. Complete Course of Experimental Philosophy, by Dubois. Course of Moral Philosophy, by Demoustier. In each decade there will be besides, two circles set aside for music and dancing. The reading-room will be abundantly supplied with journals, periodical publications, and the most interesting pamphlets.

A CORRECT LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The following is offered to the Public as a complete List of all Publications within the Month.—Authors and Publishers who desire a correct and early Notice of their Works, are intreated to transmit copies of the same.

ASTRONOMY,

LECTURES on Astronomy, by Margaret Bryan, of Margate, 4to. plates, 1l. 5s. in boards. recommended by Dr. Hutton, of Woolwich.

CHEMISTRY AND USEFUL ARTS.

Observations on the various Systems of Canal Navigations, by William Chapman, 4to. 5s.

The Coffee Planter of St. Domingo, with an Appendix, containing a View of the Constitution, Government, Laws, and State of that Colony, previously to the year 1789, by P. J. Laborie, boards, 10s. 6d. with 22 plates. Cadell and Davis.

DRAMA.

The Castle Spectre, in five acts, by M. G. Lewis, M.P. 2s. Bell.

EDUCATION.

The Beauties of History, by L. M. Stretch, M.A. abridged into one volume 12mo, 3s. 6d. bound. Dilly.

The Youth's infallible Instructor, comprizing the different degrees of Literature necessary to complete an English Scholar, by W. Card, in four parts, 2s. each. Scatchard.

The Candid Friend; addressed to a young Gentleman, being Instructions to him on entering Life, 1s. 6d. bound. Lowe.

Discours sur l'Article, composé pour l'Ecole des Messieurs Strahans, à Enfield, & lu dans une Société de Gens de Lettres; par M. l'Abbé de Lévisac. Dulan and Co.

The Youth's Miscellany; or, a Father's Gift to his Children, by W. Mavor, LL.D. 4s. Newberry.

GEOGRAPHY.

A general View of the State of Portugal, containing a topographical Description thereof, and including an Account of the physical and moral State of the Kingdom, by James Murphy, royal 4to. 15 plates, 27s. boards. Cadell and Davies.

HISTORY.

Memoirs of the House of Medici, from its Origin to the Death of Francisco the Second, Grand Duke of Tuscany, and of the great Men who flourished in Tuscany within that period; translated from the French of M. Tenhove, with Notes and Observations, by Sir Richard Clayton, bart. 2 vols. quarto, 2l. 2s. boards.

LAW.

Reports of Cases argued and determined in the Courts of Common Pleas and Exchequer Chamber, in Easter and Trinity Terms, 1797, by *J. B. Bosanquet* and *C. Puller*, 5s.

Butterworth.

A Digest of the Acts of Parliament for raising the Provisional Cavalry, by *E. Boswell*, 1s.

Hatchard.

MEDICINE.

A Treatise on Leeches, wherein the properties, use, &c. of that valuable reptile is clearly set forth, by *George Thorn*, 1s. 6d.

Symonds.

A new Edition of *Dr. Wallis* on the Art of preventing Diseases and restoring Health, with considerable Alterations and Additions, 7s. 6d. bound.

Robinson.

Enchiridion Syphiliticum; or, Directions for the domestic treatment of Venereal Complaints, by *A. P. Buchan*, M.D. 2s. 6d.

Callow.

An Essay on the Gout, with a candid Examination, &c. of *Dr. Latham's* Principles, by *George Wallis*, M.D. &c. 4s.

Robinsons.

A Lecture introductory to a Course of Popular Instruction on the Constitution and Management of the Human Body, by *Thomas Beddoes*, M.D. 8vo. 1s. 6d.

Johnson.

METAPHYSICS.

Elements of the Critical Philosophy, containing a concise Account of its Origin and Tendency; a View of all the Works of its Founder, *Kant*; and a Glossary for the Explanation of Terms and Phrases. To which are added, three Philological Essays, from the German of *J. C. Adelung*, by *A. F. M. Willich*, M.D. 8vo. 6s. boards.

Longman.

MISCELLANIES.

The posthumous works of the Author of a *Vindication of the Rights of Woman*, containing the Wrongs of Woman, a Fragment; Letters, and Miscellaneous Pieces, in 4 vols. 14s. in boards. Also, in 1 vol. same size, price 3s. 6d. with a portrait, by *Opie* and *Heath*, *Memoirs of the Author*, by *William Godwin*.

Johnston.

A new edition of *Kearsley's* Annual Tax Tables, 10d.

Thoughts on the Necessity of Moral Discipline in Prisons, by *Thomas Bowen*, M.A. 1s.

Rivingtons.

The Economist; or, Englishman's Magazine, No. I. for January, 1798, price three halfpence, or 250 for 1l. 1s.

Ridgway's Annual Town Guide, or Complete Register of Taxes, to the 8th. of February, 1798, containing a copious Abstract of every Clause in the Assessed Tax Multiplication Act, 6d.

Ridgway.

The Four Ages, together with Essays on various Subjects, by *William Jackson*, esq. of Exeter, 8vo. 7s. boards.

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A Catalogue of Books now on Sale, by *Thomas Payne*, bookseller, 1s.

Religious and Philanthropic Tracts, addressed to Friendly Societies, by *J. Cowe*, M.A. 2s. 6d.

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A new edition of *Heraldry in Miniature*, 3s. sewed.

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The Masquerade; or, a Collection of New Enigmas, Logogriphs, &c. &c. vol. II, containing the Solution of vol. I, to be continued annually, 1s. 6d.

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An Economical and New Method of Cookery; describing above 80 cheap, whole, some, and nutritive Dishes, by *Eliza Melrose*, 2s. 6d.

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Dulan and Co.

Considerations on the original and proper Objects of the Royal Hospital of Bridewell, addressed to the Governors, by *William Waddington*, Esq. 1s. 6d.

Rivingtons.

MILITARY AND NAVAL AFFAIRS.

The Monthly Army List, for February, with Corrections to the last Month, and with the present Head Quarters of every Regiment of the Regulars, the Fencibles, and the Militia; in the manner of *Steel's List of the Navy*, 1s.

Hookham and Carpenter.

NATURAL PHILOSOPHY, &c.

A New System of Physiology, comprehending the Law by which Animated Beings in general, and the Human Species in particular, are governed, in the various States of Health and Disease, by *R. Saumarez*, surgeon to the Magdalen Hospital, 2 vols. 8vo. boards, 14s.

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Essays on the Microscope, by the late *George Adams*, the second edition, with considerable Additions and Improvements, by *Frederick Kanmacher*, fellow of the Linnæan Society, 4to. 32 plates, 28s.

Jones.

Geometrical and Graphical Essays, containing a general Description of the Mathematical Instruments used in Geometry, Surveying, &c. &c. Second Edition, corrected and enlarged, by *W. Jones*, 2 vols. 8vo. 14s.

Jones.

NOVELS.

The Castle on the Rock; or, Memoirs of the Elderland Family, by the Author of *Derwent Priory*, 3 vols. 10s. 6d. boards.

Symonds.

Estelle, by *M. de Florian*, translated by *Mrs. S. Cumming*, 2 vols. 12mo. 5s. boards.

Wright.

Parental Duplicity; or, the Power of Antifice, a Novel, 10s. 6d.

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Milistina; or, the Double Interest, 2 vols. 8s.

Lowe.

The Heir of Montague, 3 vols. 10s. 6d. sewed.

Lane.

PHILOLOGY.

ENEA IDEPOENTA; or, the Diversions of Purley, by *J. Horne Tooke*, A.M. formerly of St. John's College, Cambridge, published, by Subscription, in 3 vols. 4to. price 2l. 2s. —The First Volume is now ready to be delivered to Subscribers.

Johnson.

POETRY.

The Columbiad; an Epic Poem, on the Discovery of America and the West Indies, by *Columbus*.

Columbus, in twelve books, by the Rev. I. L. Moore, 8vo. 15s. boards. Rivingtons.

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fra dubbi miei," is strongly characteristic, and, in some parts, conveys the sense of the words so emphatically, that the auditor may say, in the language of *Metastasio* himself,

"L'aure che ascolto intorno

"Mi fanno palpitar.

The Genealogy of the British Kings, including the Heptarchy, composed by *T. Attwood*. The words written by *G. Saville Carey*. Price 3s. 6d. Longman and Broderip.

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Considering the tender age of those for whose benefit this work is chiefly designed, and that a familiarity and plainness, bordering on puerility, was an absolute requisite of the plan, both Mr. Carey and Mr. Attwood have acquitted themselves with much address. But, to confine our observations to the music; the several airs and recitatives, of which the genealogy consists, are so pleasingly conceived, and so judiciously arranged and contracted, as to maintain and interest the attention to the end. Wherever the composer has found the subject of the words sufficiently prominent and distinguished to demand a particular cast of expression, he has attended to that circumstance, and generally with great success. In a word, the happiness of the execution scarcely yields to the excellence of the design.

Goosey Goosey Gander; with Variations for the Harp or Piano-Forte; composed by *C. Bryan*. Price 1s. Skillern.

This air, originally trivial in itself, assumes, in its present state, somewhat of respectability. The variations were given to it by Mr. Bryan, are calculated to attract the attention of Piano-Forte practitioners. They are easy, progressive, faithful to the theme, and every way suited to the improving finger of the juvenile musician.

ACCOUNT OF DISEASES IN LONDON *,

From the 20th of December to the 20th of January.

ACUTE DISEASES.		No. of Cases.		No. of Cases.	
CATARRH	Inflammatory Sore Throat	-	10	Hysteria	-
	Ulcerated Sore Throat	-	3	Palpitatio	-
	Typhus Mitior	-	2	Convulsio	-
	Typhus Gravior	-	4	Hemiplegia	-
	Intermittent Fever	-	3	Paralysis	-
	Measles	-	1	Chorea	-
	Ephamera	-	2	Tremor	-
	Acute Rheumatism	-	1	Vertigo	-
	Trismus Traumaticus	-	1	Herpes	-
				Herpes Pustulosus	-
				Pfora or Itch	-
				Prurigo	-
				Tinea	-
				Nephralgia	-
CHRONIC DISEASES.				Procidentia Vagina	-
Cough	-	-	12	Chronic Rheumatism	-
Hoarseness	-	-	4	Sciatica	-
Cough and Dyspnoea	-	-	16	PUERPERAL DISEASES.	
Hæmoptysis	-	-	3	Menorrhagia Lochiales	-
Pulmonary Consumption	-	-	4	Prolapsus Vaginæ	-
Hydrothorax	-	-	3	Hæmorrhoids	-
Ascites	-	-	5	Enuresis	-
Anasarca	-	-	8	Stranguria	-
Cephalalgia	-	-	4	Mastodynia	-
Ophthalmia	-	-	2	Swelling of lower Extremities	-
Fluor albus	-	-	2	INFANTILE DISEASES.	
Menorrhagia	-	-	2	Aphthæ	-
Amenorrhœa	-	-	11	Convulsio	-
Menorrhagia Difficilis	-	-	3	Imperforated Anus	-
Chlorosis	-	-	2	CruSta Lactea	-
Obstipatio	-	-	2	Icteria	-
Gastrodynia	-	-	5	Ophthalmia purulenta	-
Dyspepsia	-	-	2	Worm Fever	-
Enterodynia	-	-	7		
Worms	-	-	1		
Procidentia Ani	-	-	2		
Hernia	-	-	3		
Colica Pictonum	-	-	1		
Darrhoea	-	-	2		
Dysentery	-	-	1		
Hæmorrhoids	-	-	3		
Dysuria	-	-	3		
Enuresis	-	-	2		
Icterus	-	-	2		
Scrofula	-	-	1		
Hypochondriasis	-	-	2		

* It having been announced to the public, in the last Magazine, that the late reporter of the Monthly State of Diseases in London has suspended his periodical communications, and that a similar correspondence has been established with a Gentleman in a different part of the town; it may be proper to observe, that the limits of the Dispensary which he attends include the whole of the City, and extend likewise considerably to the North and to the East.—It may not be improper farther to remark, that his situation affords a favourable opportunity of giving some report respecting the state of Puerperal and Infantile Diseases.

The present season being uncommonly mild, the number of catarrhal and pneumatic diseases has been comparatively small. Many persons, who are usually afflicted with these complaints at this time of the year, have either entirely escaped, or have been very slightly affected by them. The frost, however, though it lasted but for a few days, rather increased the number, and aggravated the symptoms of these diseases. In one case of catarrhal fever, besides a considerable degree of pain in the head, particularly about the frontal sinus, soreness and excoriation of the fauces, and some rigidity in the muscles of the lower jaw, the cough and difficulty of breathing were so urgent, as to require the application of leeches and a blister to the sternum; these means, accompanied with gentle purging, and the use of antimonials and squills, succeeded in the removal of the disease.

For

For some weeks past, there has been a large number of cutaneous diseases; the different species of herpes have prevailed, and, in some instances, pustular eruptions have been very obstinate. The strenuous manner in which the use of the nitrous acid had been recommended, induced us to try it in some of these cases; and we have a pleasure in reporting that, in several instances, it produced a speedy removal of symptoms. That a conclusion respecting the powers of this medicine might not be rendered dubious by the use of external remedies, of a different kind, a lotion, composed of this acid and water, was used in those cases in which any external remedy was thought to be necessary. In two cases of tinea these means succeeded. The use of this medicine was not, in many instances, attended with any inconvenience: and in those cases where any pain in the stomach or bowels was complained of, a larger dilution of the acid, or the addition of a small quantity of any tincture, or spirit, prevented any farther effect of this kind.

The case of Trismus terminated fatally. It was preceded by a slight wound in one of the fingers, from which very little inconvenience arose until several days after the accident, when the jaw became suddenly fixed; some slight convulsions were felt in different parts of the body, the pulse became exceedingly quick and feeble, and in a few days the patient expired. The colica pictonum was succeeded by anasarca swellings of the lower extremities, accompanied with such a difficulty of breathing, as indicated some effusion into the cavity of the thorax. These symptoms may be attributed to a state of constitution induced by repeated attacks of the former disease, to which the patient, who was a painter by trade, had for several years been subject, or, perhaps, with as much probability, to an intemperate use of spirituous liquors in which he had indulged himself, and which might co-operate with the other cause in producing the effect. The mischief arising from this species of intemperance has been admirably well described by the writer of the account of diseases prevalent in the month of November.

In one of the cases of hydrothorax, on the death of the patient, an opportunity of-

ferred of inspecting the body*; upon elevating the sternum, and inspecting the cavity of the thorax, we discovered a large quantity of a brown or reddish coloured fluid. There was likewise a preternatural quantity of a similar fluid in the pericardium. The left lobe of the lungs was much compressed, so as to appear much diminished in its size; and there were considerable adhesions of that portion of the pleura which covered the lungs, to that which lined the cavity of the thorax.

The deaths in the Bills of Mortality for the last four weeks, are stated as follows:

Abcess	-	-	4
Abortive	-	-	2
Aged	-	-	100
Ague	-	-	1
Apoplexy	-	-	11
Asthma	-	-	41
Bleeding	-	-	2
Brain Fever	-	-	1
Cancer	-	-	7
Child-bed	-	-	18
Consumption	-	-	320
Convulsions	-	-	300
Dropfy	-	-	61
Fever	-	-	105
French Pox	-	-	5
Gout	-	-	10
Hooping Cough	-	-	14
Jaundice	-	-	5
Inflammation	-	-	23
Lunatic	-	-	3
Measles	-	-	16
Mortification	-	-	17
Palsy	-	-	8
Pleurisy	-	-	1
Scurvy	-	-	1
Small-Pox	-	-	38
Still-born	-	-	32
Suddenly	-	-	8
Teeth	-	-	36
Thrush	-	-	4
Water in the Head	-	-	8

* The body was opened at the particular request of the deceased, who, not long before his death, mentioned his wish on this subject, and solicited a promise from his family, that it should be complied with; assigning, as a reason for this request, that a knowledge of the seat of his complaint might contribute to the relief of others, who might be afflicted in the same manner. Such a request being rather unusual, especially among persons in a lower rank of life, deserves to be mentioned, as highly worthy of imitation.

STATE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

In January, 1798.

GREAT BRITAIN.

MR. Pitt's Assessed Tax Bill, the rise and progress of which were given in our last number, has, after some modifications, received the Royal assent, and been passed into a law. Among the numerous meetings to oppose this measure, that held at the Crown and Anchor on the 2d of January, of the United Committees of the outlying parishes of the metropolis, deserves particular attention. Among other resolutions breathing that spirit of rational liberty, which was wont to animate the breast of almost every Englishman, there was one which expressed the concern of the Meeting, at "Seeing instituted in this country parochial inquisitions, where the people can only obtain redress by disclosing the secrets of their private concerns, and submitting, perhaps, their most important interests to the investigation of men, who can have no particular motive to protect, and may have many inducements to harass and oppress."

The last important debate upon this Bill in the House of Commons, was upon its third reading on the 3d of January, which was adjourned, and concluded on the 4th. Mr. Thompson first rose, and pointed out the striking inconsistencies of the Bill, and its oppressive tendency. He was followed by Mr. Tyrwhitt and Mr. Nicholls, who both opposed the Bill. On the same side Sir Francis Burdett made what may not only be called an energetic, but a bold speech: he observed, that though he agreed with those who thought this mode of raising the supplies was highly objectionable, yet were it altogether unobjectionable in itself, he would oppose the granting of such supplies, because he detested the purposes they were intended to promote, the prosecution of "this detestable war," and the support of a system of corruption. These were the accursed ends for which the people of this country were to groan beneath a load of increased taxes: he was not sorry that at this late period, when the clouds of prejudice were in some measure passed away, and when men from distress were brought to think, and reflect upon the past, to have an opportunity of saying a word, which he attributed entirely to the ambitious projects of Ministers upon the origin

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of the war, for the subjugation of France. By means of the immense revenue raised upon the people of this country, he added, a corrupt Minister had debauched the very spirit of the nation, and prepared us to become slaves, and the proof of it was our want of generosity and spirit in submitting to become the instruments for enslaving others: "For let no man flatter himself," said he, "that he has not been implicated in the guilt of that horrible conduct, which the Minister adopted with regard to Ireland, unless he may have done all in his power to prevent it."

Sir Francis then traced the outlines of the melancholy state of the Sister Kingdom, which he founded upon the report of the Earl of Moira, and upon information he had himself received. This Irish system, he observed, had already passed over into Scotland, and the same spirit had discovered itself at home, though not to the same extent. He concluded by declaring, that he never would at any time, or under any circumstances, become an accomplice in the guilt of supporting a system, which if it could be supported, and was to be persisted in, would eventually destroy the freedom of his country.

Dr. Laurence, Lord Hawkesbury, and several others on the ministerial side of the House, supported the Bill, and defended the measures of administration. The debate was then adjourned.

On its being resumed the next evening, Mr. Sheridan and Mr. Fox exerted their talents against the passing of the Bill, and against the conduct of Administration. Mr. Sheridan was extremely severe upon the assertions made by Dr. Laurence the preceding evening, particularly the comparison which the Doctor had drawn between us at present, and the great Roman Republic in the height of its fame and glory. Was it ever stated, said he, that the Roman bulwark was a naval force? This kind of rhodomontade declamation used by the learned gentleman, Mr. Sheridan said, was finely described by one of the Roman poets—

—"I, demens, curre per Alpes,
Ut pueris placeas, et declamatio fias."

The Doctor appeared to come to that House as *executor* to administer to Mr. Burke's *fury*, without any of his *fire* or *genius*.

K

Mr.

Mr. Fox defended himself against the assertions or charges which had been brought against him on that and the preceding night, by several adherents of the Minister, who had insinuated that he and his party had not the confidence of the people: he said if he were to imitate the example set before him, he could shew how much more the charge was applicable to his Majesty's Ministers. If petitions of distrust from several of the most respectable districts of this kingdom were proofs that they had lost the approbation and support of the country, it was certain that many such petitions had been presented to the throne. He had had frequent occasions to go to the Levee to present such petitions: it was the fashion of the day, that the public should be derided; it was the King's, Lords, and Commons House of Parliament, not the Commons of Great Britain, not the voice of the people that was now to be regarded—now that the Bill of Rights was destroyed, the public voice was to be nothing. Thus an Alderman of London had presumed to say, that his constituents were for the measure of this Bill, directly in opposition to a resolution of the Livery in Common Hall, in which they had declared their disapprobation of its principles. In reply to some illiberal reflections of Mr. Wilberforce, Mr. Fox exclaimed, "Why is the Honourable Gentleman so violent against me, but that he is ready to *lend* himself as a *ready instrument* of the Minister, in order by these ingenious *misrepresentations* to divert the public attention from the subject that presses hard upon his instructors; just as in 1784, he *lent* himself as a *fit instrument* to spread in the county of York the report "that I was desirous to seize upon all power, and *seat myself on the Throne*." For such an office he is eminently qualified. Mr. Fox next spoke in extenuation of a charge, which some of the Minister's friends had brought against him of using ambiguous and dangerous expressions, when he had spoken of a Radical Reform in Parliament. To prevent future misrepresentation, he said what he meant was, "that a radical reform both in the representation of the people in Parliament, and of the abuses which had crept into the practice of the constitution, together with a complete change of the system of administration, was the sole ground upon which he could be prevailed upon

to take any responsible office in his Majesty's Councils." Was explanation, said he, necessary to this? If it were, he should answer in other words, "that instead of governing on the principle of the present Minister, which went to increase the influence of the Crown, and to abridge the rights of the people; he wished to see both restored to that just balance which the constitution required, and which was essential to the happiness both of king and people." In short, he meant exactly what Lord Chatham meant, when he said "that by a change of system, it was not merely the removal of Ministers, but a thorough dereliction of the principles upon which their administration had been carried on." He meant what Lord Camelford meant, when he declared he would vote against granting the supplies. His declaration was, that he would not vote for granting a supply until a pledge was given him, not merely for the removal of Ministers, but also for a complete and total change in the system of both foreign and domestic government. This declaration had been attributed to the present Chancellor of the Exchequer, but improperly.

Mr. Fox next alluded to the letter which had been published a little time before, said to be from Earl Moira relative to a change of administration, to which reference had been made in the former part of that debate. He declared, that he had no more concern in, or knowledge of what had passed upon the occasion to which it referred, than the Hon. Secretary. An application he understood had been made to the noble Earl, for whom he had a very high personal respect, inviting him to form a new administration: he knew not who they were, he had never been let into that secret; but the publication of that letter had made known a fact of a very important nature to the country, viz. that *there was a number of members of that house who gave their support to the Ministers, though at the same time they thought that they were utterly unfit for their situations*, and that there ought to be a change. "If I had given any advice to the noble Earl upon the subject, said Mr. Fox, I can assure the Hon. Secretary, that it would have been a very disinterested one, notwithstanding the insinuation he has thrown out.—I should have said, my Lord, take care;

care; unless you have a pledge for a reform, as your security for the good which you intend, you are venturing into a country where men of your frankness are not a match for the insidious arts which will be practised against you. You are invited only for the purpose of putting an end to the war, in order that the system which you stifle for the moment, may be re-established." After making cogent arguments on the Bill, he concluded with drawing an affecting picture of the state of Ireland.

Mr. Pitt replied to Mr. Fox and the other members of opposition. On the question that the Bill be now read a third time being put, the House divided,

Ayes 196—Noes 71—Majority 125. The Bill was then sent to the Lords, where it was passed, and received the Royal assent by Commission a few days afterwards.

On the 11th of January, Mr. Dundas presented a message from the King, purporting that his Majesty had received various advices of preparation made in France, in pursuance of the design repeatedly professed, of attempting the invasion of these kingdoms, that he was firmly persuaded that by the zeal, courage, and exertion of his subjects, struggling for whatever was most dear to them, such an enterprise, if attempted, would terminate in the ruin and confusion of those who might be engaged in it; but that he in anxious concern for the welfare of his people, felt it incumbent upon him to omit no suitable precaution which might contribute to their defence. His Majesty, therefore, in pursuance of the Act passed for providing for the augmentation of the Militia, thought it right to make this communication to the Commons, to the end that the said Militia might be drawn out and embodied, and to march as occasion should require. The House of Commons on the 12th of January, adjourned to the 8th of the following month.

IRELAND.

The melancholy detail of the sufferings of Ireland has often been dwelt upon, and we believe generally for the laudable purpose of rendering the deplorable situation of that country as public as possible, in order that persons in England, who have it in their power to relieve its misfortunes, might have no opportunity of pleading ignorance of their existence.

Some affidavits have been made respecting the trial of the late Mr. Orr, Arthur Johnson and Archibald Thompson, two of the Jury, who were impanelled to try the deceased, have sworn that spirituous liquors were introduced into the Jury room, while they were considering the verdict, with which several of the Jury were intoxicated; that the deponent, Thompson, was so intimidated by one of the Jurors by threats, &c. as to be induced to concur in a verdict contrary to his opinion. Another of the Jurors deposed, that had he known that the consequence of returning a verdict of guilty upon that occasion, would have been followed by the death of the accused, he should not have agreed to such verdict.

FRANCE.

In a public sitting of the Directory on the 21st of December, a deputation from the principal Bankers and Merchants of Paris, presented an address, in which they intreated the Directory to send a message to the legislative body, inviting them to open a loan for the purpose of procuring a speedy and effectual means for *making a descent upon England*. The Directory complied with the intreaties of the deputation, and sent a message the same day to the Council of Five Hundred, requesting them to adopt measures for raising a loan for the desired purpose. After the address and message were ordered to be printed, Jean de Brie rose, and asked "Who was the citizen that did not burn to revenge the wrongs done to France by the government who created *La Vendee*, the *Chouans*, and the *Chauffers*, and who alone had prolonged the evils of war? Yes! said he, we will verify the opinion of the Member of the English Parliament, who said that the obstinate resistance of Pitt to peace, had only tended to consolidate the Republic. Let England that has so frequently disturbed the tranquility of our country, tremble in its turn for its own safety!"

The Council referred the message to a Committee, and ordered a report to be made as soon as possible.

This project of invading England, and of ruining it by every possible means, was in the month of January the order of the day in France, and appeared to acquire new energy at every step; donations were pouring in from every quarter, to defray the ex-

pence of the proposed descent. The addressees with which these gifts were accompanied, were marked with the same degree of extravagance as the messages of the Directory to the Legislative Body upon this subject. The Central Bureau of Paris, however, surpassed all competition in the violence of its invective. It accused our Government of having enslaved and reduced the people of England to the condition of brutes; and it compared the agents of the government to wolves feeding upon human flesh. The principal motive for the popular fury, which prevailed in these addressees, was derived from the calumnious statement of the Directory, which accused us of refusing the means of subsistence to 20,000 French prisoners of war now in England.

The measure upon which the Directory seemed to place more reliance than upon its projected plan of invasion, was that of annoying our commerce in all its points of communication with the Continent. This measure was the subject of a message dated the same day as the news was received in Paris of the taking possession of Mentz by the Republican troops.

After having caused all the English goods and merchandize, with which all the magazines and warehouses throughout the Republic were stocked, to be seized in one day, the French government proceeded to decree, that a law should be enacted, declaring, that vessels belonging to every foreign country, laden with English merchandize, or having goods on board, either as the whole or part of the cargo, should be deemed legal prizes; and that no foreign ship, which in prosecution of her voyage, should have entered an English port, should be admitted into the ports of France, unless in cases of distress.

The French have divided the countries on the left bank of the Rhine into six departments; namely, the Department of the Roer, chief town, Crevelt; the Department of the Liffel, chief town Coblenz; the Department of the Rhine and the Moselle, chief town, Bonn; the Department of the Rhine and the Nahe, chief town; Mentz; the Department of the Sambre and the Moselle, chief town Deux-Ponts; the Department of Mount Tonnerre, chief town, Worms.

ITALY.

We shall now proceed to give the outline of an extraordinary event which took place at Rome on the 27th of December.

The brother of the Conqueror of Italy, Citizen Buonaparte, Ambassador from the Republic of France to the Court of Rome, has written a very long letter to the Minister of foreign affairs, giving the particulars of an insurrection which took place there on the 27th of December.

The leaders in this affair called repeatedly upon the Ambassador, Buonaparte, requesting him to protect this popular movement. This he opposed with all his power, and was soon convinced of the real views of the insurgents; his palace was assailed by the multitude, and by the troops of the government, who, on the other hand, kept up a constant fire upon the former. The Ambassador, Buonaparte, went out accompanied by General Duphot, and the Adjutant-general Sherlock, with the hopes of appeasing the disturbance, and of inducing the insurgents to quit the French jurisdiction; he soon, he says, had reason to be convinced that they had a design upon his life. General Duphot was shot by the papal soldiery, and the Ambassador was obliged to have recourse to flight for safety. Fourteen hours after this assassination, and notwithstanding the Ambassador's frequent message to the Secretary of State, no person was sent by the Roman Government to enquire into the state of things. The Ambassador filled with indignation, as he says, against a weak and murderous government, resolved to quit Rome, and solicited passports for that purpose, and went immediately to Florence, whence he wrote to Paris. The Ambassador speaks in the warmest terms of the attention he received from the Tuscan and Spanish Ambassadors, who braving all dangers, came to visit him in his palace.

PUBLIC FUNDS.

Stock Exchange, January 27, 1798.

Stocks yesterday experienced a rise of nearly one per cent. previous to which they had gradually sunk. Consols, which were done for the opening at 49 3-4ths, opened at 47 3-4ths, ex. div. The prevailing opinion is, that no material depression will take place till after the bargain for the loan.

5 PER CENT. ANN. opened on the 22d of this month, at 70.

4 PER CENT. CONS. were, on the 29th of last month, at 59 1-4ths, and continued without much variation till yesterday, when they rose to 59 3-4ths.

3 PER CENT. CONS. opened on the 19th of January at 47 3-4ths, and with little variation continued till yesterday, when they rose to 48 3-4ths.

LOTTERY TICKETS are on the rise—Present price in the market 11l. 15s. a 17s.

Dividends are now paying on 3 per Cent. Consols, 1726—5 per Cents—India Stock—South Sea Stock—Imperial Annuities—and 1751.

Marriages and Deaths in and near London.

Married.] At St. Botolph, Aldgate, Mr. Thomas Everett, of Horningham, Wilts, to Miss Mary Eustace, of the Tower.

Mr. Benjamin Broomhead, of King-street, to Miss Eaton, of London-wall.

At St. Martin's in the Fields, Mr. James Welford, of King-street, to Miss Grove, of Salisbury-street.

Mr. Brown, jun. Holborn, to Miss Sarah Rawlinson.

At St. Martin's Church, Mr. Weatherbey, of Newmarket, to Miss Hill.

In London, Charles Lutwidge, esq. Captain in the Royal Lancashire Militia, to Miss Dodgson, daughter of the late Bishop of London.

In London, Capt. Lowndes, of the Buckinghamshire Militia, to Miss James, daughter of Robert James, esq. of Corbyn's Hall, near Stourbridge.

At St. Mary's Abchurch, Canon-street, Charles Stayner, esq. Governor of Church-hill Factory, Hudson's Bay, to Miss S. E. Bayless, of Wood-street, Spital-fields.

Mr. Wm. Reeve, law-stationer, of Lyon's-inn, to the second daughter of Mr. Bingley, Bookseller, of Red Lion-passage, Fleet-street.

Thomas Seward Beachcroft, Esq. to Miss Charlotte Lewis, of Frederick's-place.

At St. George's Church, Hanover-square, Major Hutchinson, to Miss King, daughter of the late Dr. King.

At St. Andrew's Church, Holborn, Lieutenant-Colonel Rattray, of Craighall, in the county of Perth, to Miss Julia Simpson, daughter of James Simpson, esq. Chancery-lane.

In London, Lieutenant-Colonel Ronald Ferguson, to Miss Munro, daughter of Lieutenant-General Sir Hector Munro, K. B.

Mr. Wm. Murray, of Laurence Poultney-lane, to Mrs. Devenish, of Gower-street.

At St. James's, Clerkenwell, Mr. Wm. Scott, attorney, of Pentonville, to Miss Bellemey.

Mr. Haywood, of Tooley-street, to Miss Crawley, of Welwyn, Hants.

Mr. Bingley, of Red Lion-passage, Fleet-street, to Mrs. Bassett, widow of the late Capt. Bassett, in the East India trade.

At St. George's Hanover-square, Mr. Pope, to Mrs. Spencer, both of Covent-garden.

Mr. Henry Hall, of Watling-street, to Miss Livett, of Albermarle-street.

Mr. Thomas Jones, of Little Moor-fields, to Miss Seward, of Foster-lane.

Died.] In Grosvenor-square, John Wilkes, Chamberlain of the City of London.—For a particular account of whom see the former Part of this Number.

At his house in Chatham-place, Blackfriar's Bridge, Samuel Brooke, esq.

In London, Sir Ralph Milbanke, bart. father to Lady Melbourne.

In Newgate-street, Mr. Andrew Lawson, flour-merchant.

In his 78th year, Mr. Thomas Edgerton, of Giltspur-street, West Smithfield.

At his house in little Ruffel-street, Bloomsbury, Thomas Waken, esq. of Eastcot.

In Warwick-street, Charing-cross, whilst on a visit from the country, Miss Margaret Griffith, of Caernarvon.

At his house in Nottingham-street, of a scarlet fever, John Webb, esq. aged 39; and four days after, likewise of a scarlet fever, Mr. John Webb, his son, aged 16.

Mr. Martin, attorney, who defended the cause of Williams for publishing Paine's Age of Reason.

In Cheap-side, Mr. Robert Hillcock, sen. chinaman.

In an apoplectic fit, Francis Kemble, esq. of Swithin's-lane.

Wm. Stone, esq. of Robert-street, Adelphi.

In an advanced age, Mr. Preston, musical-instrument-maker, and music-seller, in the Strand. He was allowed to be the best guitar-maker in the kingdom, and the original inventor of tuning that instrument with a watch-key.

At Hackney, Miss Eliz. Beach.

In London, Mr. T. Breary, a yeoman of the guards.

In London, Mrs. Ballachey.

At her house in Upper Grosvenor-street, Dowager Lady Beauchamp Proctor, widow of the late Sir Wm. Beauchamp Proctor, of Langley Park, in Norfolk.

In Fenchurch-street, aged 74, Mrs. Hannah Lewis.

In Tower-street, Mr. Horton Crippen.

In John's-street, St. George's in the East, aged 87, Mr. J. Pinchbeck.

At his house, Edgware-road, W. Mawhood, esq.

At the house of Sir Hugh Palliser Walters, bart. Miss Ann Gates, second daughter of the late John Gates, esq. of Dedham, and sister to Lady Walters. Her death was occasioned by a cancer in her left breast, which had baffled the skill of the most eminent physicians and surgeons for nearly two years.

After a lingering illness, Mrs. Keyfall, wife of the rev. John Keyfall, of Millman-street, Bedford-row.

In London, in his 68th year, Mr. John Lewis Baumgartner, merchant.

At his house in the Crescent, Minories, Mr. Wm. Midford, surgeon.

At

At her brother's house at Hounslow, Mrs. Allen, wife of Ralph Knight Allen, esq. of New House, in Essex.

In Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, Edward Hall, esq. a gentleman who, from the first institution of the Whig Club of England, filled the important office of Secretary with the universal and constant approbation of the Society. The integrity and consistency of his political life, and the native urbanity of his manners, will long endear his memory to his friends, and to all the lovers of political liberty.

In Upper Harley-street, in an apoplectic fit, J. Kingstone, esq.

In Pall-Mall, Mrs. Phillips, wife of Wm. Phillips, esq.

At Knightbridge, Mrs. Elizabeth Macdonald, eldest daughter of Major Macdonald.

In Queen Ann-street, West, Mrs. Blackwood, wife of Capt. Blackwood.

At her house, in her 81st year, Mrs. Guinard.

At Homerton, after a lingering illness, Mrs. Liddiard.

At Pimlico, Mr. Yeates, sen.

At St. George's in the East, aged 65, Mrs. Pemberton.

At her house in Curzon-street, May-fair, in her 82d year, Mrs. Whitten.

In Earl-street, Blackfriars, Mr. John Crozier Hart, son of the late Alderman Hart.

On the 21st of November, 1797. died, in Gravel-lane, Southwark, John Macquire, aged 65, whose eventful life might furnish materials for an interesting history, if the humble annals of the poor could lay claim to public attention.

He was originally bred a gardener, but from circumstances became a seaman, in which capacity he served his country on board the Medway man of war, when that ship, under the command of Commodore John Bladen Tinker, esq. assisted at the siege of Pondicherry, in the old French war; and shared in the bounty of the Nabob of Arcot, on that occasion.

Returning on the conclusion of peace to the occupation of a day labourer, he worked occasionally at a foundry in Southwark, till the time of the American war, when his active spirit again prompting him to the service of his country, he entered on board the Mary Letter of Marque, of London, commanded by Capt. Robert Beatly, in which ship he made a voyage to the West Indies.

On his return, being taken into the navy, he served on board the Acteon man of war, in a voyage to Africa and the West Indies, whence he was transferred to the Grampus store ship, bound to England.

From this ship, dismasted, water-logged, and foundering, he was almost miraculously saved by his old commander Captain Beatly, who fortunately came in sight, when the Grampus was in the greatest distress.

He was now again conveyed to the West Indies, and having become an invalid, was sent home in a Transport.

After traversing the Atlantic in safety, the vessel foundered in sight of land. He was once more saved, and got on shore near Plymouth in 1780, from whence, coming to London, he was admitted into Greenwich Hospital. Marrying afterwards, and becoming an out-pensioner, he settled near Portsmouth, his wife having a pension from the Trinity-House. On the small income thus arising, about 8l. 16s. per annum, and the produce of their joint labour, they maintained themselves and their child, now an orphan, of 11 years old, and totally destitute, his mother dying in August last, and leaving no relative capable of giving him support.

On Monday, the 15th, at her son-in-law's, Mr. Joseph Weald, Blackman-st. Southwark.

In the 76th year of her age, Mrs. Experience Noble, relict of the rev. Daniel Noble, who was for many years the respectable Pastor of a general Baptist Church in Barbican (now meeting in Worship-street) and of a Sabbatarian congregation in Mill-yard, Goodman's-fields. This worthy woman, after a long life of activity and usefulness, suffered a gradual decay of body and mind. For a short period previous to her dissolution, she lay in a state of insensibility, and at last became unable to receive her accustomed nourishment. Such is the humiliating condition to which our frail nature is subject, but this imbecility will be amply recompenced at the resurrection of the just. J. E.

DEATHS ABROAD.

At Hanover, on the 2d Inst. the well-known Hanoverian General Freytag, in the 77th year of his age.

At Hamburgh, on the 11th Inst. Scheven, the rich banker. He was supposed to be worth a million, and with this immense property was a miser of the most penurious cast.

At Calcutta, Hugh Mac Leod, esq. Sub-Secretary of the Government, and eldest son of Daniel Mac Leod, esq. of Geanes, in Ross Shire.

At Dacca, in Bengal, Charles Taylor, esq. a senior merchant in the Hon. East India Company's service.

In the East Indies, Lieutenant-Colonel John Cox.

At Spanish Town, Jamaica, Henry Munro, esq. surgeon, of St. Thomas in the Vale.

On his passage from the West Indies to America, Robert Masters, M. D. Physician to the British forces at St. Domingo, and late of Great Pultney-street, Bath.

At Tobago, Lieut. J. M. Hardey, of the Cyane sloop, only son of Charles Maddocks Hardey, esq. of Charlotte-street, Portland-place.

At Pisa, in Italy, Ralph Lambton, esq. Member for Durham.

At the same place, in his 20th year, Mr. Charles Lubbock, youngest son of William Lubbock, esq. of Lammas, in Norfolk.

PROVINCIAL OCCURRENCES:

Including Accounts of all Improvements relating to the Agriculture, the Commerce, the Economy, the Police, &c. of every Part of the Kingdom; with Notices of eminent Marriages, and of all the Deaths recorded in the Provincial Prints; to which are added, Biographical Anecdotes of remarkable and distinguished Characters.

* * *For the Convenience of our numerous Provincial Readers, this Department of the Magazine is classed, at considerable Expence and Trouble, into distinct Counties, which are arranged Geographically.*

☞ *Communications (POST PAID) to this Department of the Monthly Magazine, particularly of biographical Memoirs of eminent and remarkable Characters, will always be received and noticed with Gratitude.*

NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM.

AT a late meeting of the Grocers in Newcastle, the sum of 13l. was subscribed towards supporting and extending the humane institution of the *Cork or Life Boat*, at South Shields, of which circumstantial mention is made in our last month's Magazine.

Charles John Brandling, esq. has been elected Representative in Parliament, for the town of Newcastle, in the room of his father, who has resigned his seat.

Married.] At Newcastle, Mr. John Dotchin, to Miss Dorothy Mackay. Mr. Timothy Dobson, of the Star and Garter inn, to Miss Watson. Captain Wm. Rutherford, of Ouseburn Bridge, to Miss Hannah Bedlington, of Byker-Hill, near Newcastle.

Mr. Thomas Elliot, surgeon in Newcastle, to Miss Curry, daughter of Robert Curry, esq. of Bishop-Oak, county of Durham.

At Bolden, Mr. Wm. Jowsey, of North Shields, to Miss Roberts, daughter of the late Joseph Roberts, esq. of Morpeth.

At Stockton, Mr. Pincher, of Newsam, near Yarm, to Miss Vipond, of the former place.

At Alnwick, Mr. Peter Charlton, of Newcastle, to Miss Upsal, of the former place.

Died.] At Newcastle, in her 67th year, Mrs. Elizabeth Mounsey. Mr. Richard Dobson, attorney. Aged 72, Mrs. Tabitha Smith. Mr. Jacob Hall. Aged 60, Mr. Wm. Tickle, sen. clock and watch maker. Mr. John Spooner, of the customs.

Likewise, Mr. J. Weatherhead, slater: He was employed in packing slates at Spencer's Quay, near the Javel-groupe, when he unfortunately fell into the River, and was drowned.

At Yarm, after a tedious illness, Mr. Wm. Dowson, merchant.

At Stockton, aged 77, Mr. Wm. Wilkinson, rope-maker.

At his son's house, near Sunnyside, aged 91, Mr. John Forster.

At Netherton, after a short illness, Mr. J. Potts, steward to the earl of Carlisle.

At Sunderland, in his 57th year, Mr. Thomas Hayton.

At Rothbury, Miss Catharine Wilkie.

At Norton, near Stockton upon Teese, Mr. Ralph Davison.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND.

A corn market, to be held weekly, every Friday, under the sanction of the Earl of Egremont, will be opened at Hesket New Market, on the 2d day of February. The great distance of any other market gives ground to hope, that in point of time, trouble and expence, both buyers and sellers will reap essential benefit from this establishment.

A sow, kept at Hollowmire, near Ulverston, which was only four years old last September, has farrowed 229 pigs, which, on an average, is 57 per year; and, except the first time, always brought up 13. Within 19 weeks and three days, she farrowed twice. This affords a plain proof, that, as soon as the pigs are taken off, the sow will breed again directly. The animal in question went to the male the very next day, and the young were taken away at three weeks old, which is contrary to the generally received notion. The owner of this pig has cleared 40 pounds by her, within these four years. The last year but one, he cleared 13l. 14s. Such success ought to encourage farmers in the breed of pigs, which might be rendered a great national and individual benefit.

Henry Fisher, of High Bark-House, in the parish of Setmurthy, lately put an end to his own existence, by hanging. He had frequently given intimations of his design to his wife, who not only was particularly vigilant herself to defeat his purpose, but engaged several of the neighbours to watch him in his solitary walks. One day, however, whilst some boys were playing near his barn, he entered it, locked the door after him, and thrust the key under it, so as to be easily observed. From the general complexion of the circumstances, it appears, that his intentions were rather to create an alarm, than actually to destroy himself. But, upon the door being unlocked, the unhappy man was found dead. He had hung himself, and the rope breaking, he fell over a cart, by which accident he broke his back.

Married.] At Carlisle, Walter Scott, esq. advocate, to Miss Margaret Charlotte Carpenter, daughter of the late John Carpenter, esq. of the city of Lyons. Mr. Anthony Lenn.

Benn, of Henfingham, to Miss Frances Years, of Carlisle.

At Whitehaven, Mr. William Wells, of Workington, to Miss Catharine Blades, of the former place.

At Bampton, Mr. Thomas Noble, of High How, to Miss Ann Nicholson, of Knipe, both in that parish.

At Crosthwaite church, near Kewick, Mr. Daniel Jopson, of Borrowdale, to Miss Betty Wilson.

At Ulverston, Mr. Wm. Turner Seale, to Miss Isabella Trinkhall.

At Cockermouth, Mr. Clark, jeweller, to Miss Dover.

At Morelby, Mr. Wm. Lawton, to Miss Jane Slater.

At Wigton, Mr. Sanderson, merchant, to Miss Todd.

At Wabburthwaite, Mr. Jonathan Whinnerah, of Ravenglass, to Miss Hannah Borrowdale, of the former place.

At Brampton, the rev. Thomas Ramshay, to Miss Ewart, only daughter of the late David Ewart, esq. of Brampton.

Died.] In Whitehaven, in the prime of life, Mrs. H. Skelton. In her 51st year, Mrs. Mary Nutsford. Suddenly, Mr. John Sowerby, mariner. Mr. Robert Twedie. In his 23d year, Mr. Thomas Fleming.

At Carlisle, suddenly, Mr. Thomas Smith, town-major.

At Kendal, in an advanced age, Mr. Joseph Gough. Miss Elizabeth Chambre. Mr. Giles Batty. On his return from Madeira, aged 26, Mr. Wm. Wakefield; and, on New Year's day, aged 28, his brother, Mr. Edward Wakefield, sons of John Wakefield, banker, in Kendal.

At Warnell-fell, in the parish of Sebergham, Duncan Robinson, aged 100 years. He bore arms in the service of George the First, during the rebellion of 1715. He served afterwards in the wars, and was present at most of the memorable battles and sieges, that Great Britain was concerned in, till the year 1760.

At Threepthwaite, near Whitehaven, aged 94, Mr. D'Arcy Curwen.

At Nest, near Kewick, aged 93 Mr. Joseph Hodgson.

At Chestnut-Hill, likewise near Kewick, Mr. James Culling.

At Gilthwaite-rigg, near Kendal, Mr. Tho. Baynes.

At Workington, aged 73, Mrs. Sarah Cowx. Aged 87, Mr. Joseph Steele. Mrs. Mary Heron.

At Dillington, in her 81st year, Mrs. Dorothy Heskett.

At Harrafsdyke, at the advanced age of 95, James Ladiy, who, for many years, was in the habit of walking the streets of Whitehaven, with a wooden leg, and leading an ass, with bells for sale. By this occupation, and some small relief from the parish of Haltwhistle, in Northumberland, (the place of his nativity) he was enabled to support himself decently, till within a few weeks of his decease.

His faculties were unimpaired to the day of his death.

LANCASHIRE.

The Harriet, of Liverpool, belonging to T. Barton, esq. has made no less than 33 voyages from that port to Barbadoes, and back, during the last 10 years and three months; an instance of commercial expedition scarcely to be paralleled. In the course of her successive voyages, she has taken and retaken a considerable number of vessels from the enemy, and rescued several others from falling into the hands of the French.

The officers of the Rochdale Volunteer Corps have agreed to give a premium of 10 guineas to every volunteer who shall have, in lawful wedlock, twin male children born alive, and that such of the officers as the parents shall approve of, shall stand godfather on the occasion. These gentlemen had lately an opportunity of appropriating this humane and judicious donation, the wife of one Ashworth, a private in Capt. Hamer's company, having been safely delivered of two fine boys.

Married.] At Lancaster, Capt. Quilliams, of the ship Flora, to Miss Bland.

At Manchester, Mr. John Grime, of Bolton, to Miss Mary Broadbent, of the former town. Mr. Maurice Lewis, to Miss Daniel. Mr. John Knowles, to Mrs. Robinson. Mr. Isachar Thorn, jun. to Miss Siddall. Mr. Thomas Perkins, to Miss Charlotte Finney. Mr. James Grindrod, corn-factor, to Miss Stones.

At Liverpool, Mr. James Brown, surgeon, to Miss Sarah Skelthorne, of Everton. Mr. Jonathan Dixon, to Miss Owen, daughter of the late rev. Mr. Owen, of Angelsea. Capt. Gawn, to Miss Johnson. Mr. Jonathan Garrett, to Miss Elizabeth Matthew. Capt. John Kendall, of the Prince, to Miss Ann Baldwin. Mr. John Tobin, to Miss Aspinall.

At Crosby, near Liverpool, Mr. Thomas Wright, of Leeds, to Miss Tempest, youngest daughter of the late Stephen Tempest, esq. of Broughton-Hall.

At Salford, Mr. John Gregory, to Miss Harkman.

Mr. Wm. Reece, of Oldham, cotton-manufacturer, to Miss Whitehead.

At Rochdale, the rev. Wm. Hodgson, to Miss Hay.

At Ormskirk, Mr. S. Shearson, to Miss Riddihough.

At Blackburn, Mr. Ruffel, of Manchester, to Miss Ainsworth, of the former town.

Died.] At Lancaster, aged 74, Mr. John Foster.

At Liverpool, Mr. John Clarke, the oldest clerk in the Custom-House of that port. Aged 93, Mrs. Wilson. Mrs. Gregory. After a severe and tedious illness, Mr. Robert Tyrer, joiner. Aged 80, Mrs. Greetham. Miss Rebecca Brown. Mr. Henry Rigby. Mr. J. P. Sutton. Miss Usher. Mrs. Baillie.

At Manchester, aged 73, Mr. John Daniel. Mrs. Hatfield.

In his 89th year, the rev. T. Walker, minister of Douglas chapel, in this county.

At Flixton, aged 76, Mrs. Gilbody.

At Bolton le Moors, in consequence of a fall down stairs, Mrs. Scofield.

At Blackburn, Mrs. Sharples, widow.

At Anderton, Mr. J. Clayton.

After a long and painful illness, Mrs. Hadfield, of Travis Mill.

At Leigh, suddenly, in his 62d year, the rev. James Hartley, of Martincroft, near Warrington, vicar of Leigh, and minister of Holfenfare, both in this county.

At Ouseborough, near Blackburn, at the very advanced age of 103, Mr. T. Singleton.

At Armley, aged 102, Mrs. Ann Simpson.

At Warrington, Mrs. Wilson.

At Liverpool, in his 67th year, William James, esq.

YORKSHIRE.

The Twelve Church Burgesses, at Sheffield, have subscribed 50 guineas annually to the New General Infirmary at that place.

The Corporation of Hull have very patriotically resolved to subscribe 500*l.* towards the exigences of the State, in this alarming crisis. For this purpose, the salary of the Mayor is to be discontinued; and an address has been agreed to, recommending his Worship to give no more public dinners, on any account whatever.

Beilby Thompson, esq. besides a donation of two fat heifers and a quantity of wheat to the poor of Escricke and Whildrake, has transmitted the sum of 100*l.* to the Lord Mayor of York, to be distributed among the necessitous poor of that city. To render this liberal benefaction as diffusive as possible, the parish officers have been requested to furnish lists of proper objects in their respective districts, among whom it will be distributed in small sums.

Married.] At York, Mr. John Morley, to Miss E. Beale, of Dringhouses.

At Leeds, Mr. Wm. Bingley, of Chapel-Allerton, to Miss Gledhil. Sir Francis Lindley Wood, Bart. of Bowling-Hall, to Miss Buck, eldest daughter of Samuel Buck, esq. of New Grange, near Leeds.

At Sheffield, Mr. John Hoyle, to Miss Sarah Fox.

At Bridlington, Mr. White, surgeon in the 34th Regiment, to Miss Taylor.

At Huddersfield, Mr. Keir, of Horforth, to Miss Metcalfe, daughter of Mr. Metcalfe, supervisor at the former place. Also Joseph Haigh, esq. of Golcar-Hall, to Miss Amelia Fenton, second daughter of Wm. Fenton, esq. of Spring-Grove.

At Beverley, Capt. Trollope, of the 40th regiment of foot, to Miss Mary Ford, second daughter of the rev. Dr. Ford, of the former place.

At Otley, Mr. Thomas Shaw, surgeon and apothecary, to Miss Catharine Stanhope Haddon, youngest daughter of the rev. P. Haddon, vicar of Leeds.

At South-Ottrington, Mr. Thomas Bramley, jun. to Miss Gilby, late of London.

At Whitby, Mr. Storr, shipmaster, to Miss Robinson.

At Hull, Lieut. Adamson, of the Surry Militia, to Miss Christiana Sotheran. And, on the same day, Mr. Vernon Sotheran, jun. to Mrs. Rousby, of Croom, near Malton.

Died.] At York, Mrs. Deighton. In his 87th year, the rev. John Whittell, formerly pastor of a congregation of protestant dissenters, at Brightelmstone. He had been confined to his house for the space of 19 years, from the misfortune of a broken thigh, imperfectly set. He retained the use of his faculties to the last, and bore his long confinement with exemplary fortitude and resignation.

At Leeds, Mr. Hurst, attorney. Mr. David Lupton, second son of Mr. Arthur Lupton, merchant. Mr. George Pattison. Mr. Wm. Hardon.

At Ackworth, the rev. Charles Butter, vicar of Bolton upon Dearn, and chaplain to the countess dowager of Mexborough.

At Beverley, aged 40, Mrs. Brownrigg.

At Pontefract, of an apoplectic fit, Miss Foss, only daughter of the late Mr. Foss, of Bawtry. In his 40th year, Mr. Noble, surgeon and apothecary.

At Scarborough, in his 44th year, Mr. William Williamson, landing waiter in the Customs at that port.

At Leyburn, in the North Riding, aged 73, George Boustead.

At Barton upon the Humber, aged 92, Mr. Marris, formerly in the profession of the law, from which he had retired several years.

At Bretton, near Wakefield, Mr. Noble, many years agent to the late Sir Thomas Blackett, bart. and since to Colonel Beaumont, of Bretton-Hall.

At Gainborough, aged 79, Mr. Wm. Gunor.

At Market Weighton, Mr. Wm. Brighton.

At Hull, suddenly, Mr. Millson, bookseller and stationer. In his 26th year, the rev. Thomas Browne, late of Bridlington, nephew to Mr. Thomas Browne, bookseller, in Hull. In his 69th year, General Adams, formerly in the East India service.

At the same place, in the course of his second Mayoralty, and in the 81st year of his age, the Worshipful John Banks, esq.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

The Bishop of Lincoln's exertions to establish a fund for the relief of the widows and orphans of clergymen belonging to the county of Lincoln, have been crowned with great success. From the printed list of benefactors and subscribers, it appears, that the benefactions already received amount to 519*l.* 11*s.* and the annual subscription to 603*l.* 15*s.* Both these sums, it is confidently hoped, will be considerably increased, before the first annual meeting, next Midsummer.

Married.] At Walsall, Mr. Thomas Hepwood, of Aldridge, to Mrs. Mary France, of Gold Farm, a maiden lady, aged 63.

At Louth, Mr. Brown, musician, to Miss Denniss.

Died.] At Lincoln, Mr. Robinson. Mrs. Poyntell, sister of Mr. Wm. Taylor, at the public office for news-papers, Warwick-square, London.

At Stamford, Mrs. Apsey. Mr. Thomas Robinson, grocer. Miss Lilly.

At Bridge Casterton, near Stamford, Mrs. Robinson.

At Corrington, Mrs. Rutherford.

At Heighington, near Lincoln, Mr. John Brown.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

Married.] At Nottingham, Mr. W. Wainwright, jun. to Miss Elizabeth Hornbuckle, of Barlton, Leicestershire. Mr. Billiard, hofier, in Narrowmarsh, to Miss Tunnicliffe, of Ashborne, Derbyshire. The rev. R. Wolefley, to Miss M. Middlemore. Mr. Wilson, to Miss Morley. Mr. J. Martin, to Miss Henshaw.

Richard Welby, esq. of North Muskham, to Miss Bristowe, of Beechthorp Hall.

Died.] At Nottingham, Mrs. James.

At East Retford, William Holland, M.D.

DERBYSHIRE.

Married.] Mr. Spencer, surgeon, of Duffield, to Miss Elizabeth Hancock, of Derby.

The infant daughter of Sir Nigel Bowyer Gresley, bart. of Drakelow.

CHESHIRE.

Married.] At Chester, Mr. Wm. Harrop, to Miss Mary Owen.

Died.] At Chester, Mr. R. Duke, a respectable school-master. Mr. Benjamin Yoxall. Mr. Henry Clubbe. Mrs. Ledham.

At Nantwich, Mr. R. Spencer.

At Malpas, at the advanced age of 93, James Povey, a pauper. The longevity of many of the inhabitants of this town, is frequently instanced as a proof of the salubrity of its air.

At Tarvin, after a long and severe illness, Mr. Thomas Sadler.

SHROPSHIRE.

Married.] At St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, Mr. Dixon, of Liverpool, to Miss Boorce, of the former town.

At Ludlow, Mr. James Nash, to Miss Boulcot. Mr. Edward Harries, to Mrs. Sheppard.

At Wem, Mr. Edwards, grocer, to Miss Martha Harper. Mr. Badger, of Ellesmere, to Miss Jeffreys, of Wem.

Died.] At Shrewsbury, Mr. Thomas Corrie, partner in the mercantile house of Corrie and Craig. In his 57th year, after a severe and lingering illness, Mr. Charles Fowler. Mrs. Morhall. Aged 87, Mrs. Pearson.

At Ludlow, aged 72, Mr. Hammonds, baker. Mrs. Tipton.

At Market Drayton, Philip Hinton, esq. His loss will be severely felt by the poor in that neighbourhood.

At Whixall, Mrs. Price, wife of the rev. Mr. Price, Curate of that place.

At Worthen, Mr. Thomas Davies.

At Berrington, Mrs. Lawrence.

At Ellesmere, Mr. Edwards.

At Claremont Hill, Mr. John Leech.

At Nesscliff, aged 87, Mrs. Hayward.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

Married.] At Seigford, near Stafford, Wm. Phillips Inge, esq. of Thorp Constantine, to the Right Hon. Lady Elizabeth Euphemia Stewart, daughter of the Earl of Galloway.

At Checkley, near Cheadle, the rev. Mr. Langley, to Mrs. Okeover.

Died.] Near Stafford, aged 50, Mr. Brindley, supposed to be the fattest man of his height in the kingdom.

At Newcastle under Line, Mr. Robt. Smith, son to Mr. James Smith, bookseller.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

Orders have been given by G. Western, esq. of the General Post-office, that all letters, put in at Mountsorrel, shall be forwarded to Leicester and Loughborough on the day of their being delivered, and in like manner from those places to Mountsorrel.

Married.] At Leicester, Mr. Cox, to Miss Bruce.

At Branston, Mr. Gregg, of Garthorpe, to Miss Henshaw, of the former place.

At Leicester, Mr. Cort, to Miss Ann Robinson, second daughter of the rev. Mr. Robinson.

At Sebson, Mr. Shenston, to Miss Lydia Shenston.

Died.] At Leicester, Mr. J. Barfoot. Aged 87, Mrs. Bland.

At Ashby de la Zouch, on the 17th inst. in his 78th year, after an illness of two months, Thomas Kirkland, M.D. Member of the Royal Medical Society, Edinburgh, and of the Medical Society in London, Author of Medical Surgery, and many other valuable publications. By his death, the community has lost a zealous enquirer after science, and a most successful practitioner, whose ardour in his pursuits for the improvement of his profession, did not abate but with his death. It is hoped, that a third volume of his work, "An Enquiry into the present State of Medical Surgery," which he had nearly finished before his last illness, will be given to the world, by some of his professional friends.

At Loughborough, after a short, but severe illness, Miss Sophia Farrow.

At Sutton Broughton, suddenly, in the midst of conversation, and whilst making tea for company, Miss A. Beal, aged 20.

At Kegworth, Mrs. Astey.

At Foston, in her 89th year, Mrs. Kennerley.

At Blaby, aged 17, Mr. Richard Flude.

At Reauby, Mr. Morley, grazier.

At Thornton, the rev. Mr. Abbot, vicar of that place.

At Great Glyn, aged 81, Mr. George Cooper.

RUTLANDSHIRE.

The Countess of Northampton has made a present of gowns, petticoats, and shoes, to 80 poor

poor women in the neighbourhood of her seat in this county.

Married.] At Oakham, John Parker, esq. of the Northamptonshire Militia, to Mrs. Fancourt Jessop.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

The drover and guard of the Wisbeach mail coach were convicted, at the Cambridge Quarter Sessions, of having suffered a *gentleman of the university* to drive the carriage, whereby it was overturned, and a woman much hurt. But on paying all expences, and making satisfaction to the injured party, they were reprimanded and discharged.

Married.] At Cambridge, Mr. W. Brooks, to Miss Elizabeth Wiles. The rev. Philip Wynter, late fellow commoner of Sidney College, to Miss Beales.

At West Wrating, Mr. Edward Haylock, to Miss D. Browning, of Weston Colville.

At March, in the Isle of Ely, Mr. Hanslip Long, an opulent and respectable farmer at Lynn, to Miss Kirkby, of the former place.

At Ely, Mr. Luke Dench, attorney, to Miss Bennington.

Died.] At Cambridge, Mrs. Adams. Mrs. Hannah Willoughby.

In Thorney Fen, Mr. Philip Bailey, farmer and grazier.

At Basingbourn, Mr. James Ind, late of St. Ives, Huntingdonshire.

At Over, Mrs. Frances Stevens.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

Died.] At Eynelbury, near, St. Neot's, Mrs. Cousens.

At Buckden, suddenly, Mrs. Norman.

At Eaton-Socon, suddenly, Mr. Blofield.

At the same place, likewise suddenly, Mrs. Sarah Bolton.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

Married.] At Hardingstone, near Northampton, the rev. Ashton Vade, to Miss Mary Walpole, daughter of the Hon. Richard Walpole.

At Piddington, the rev. T. W. Barlow, Prebendary of Bristol, and Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, to Miss Bockett, of South Mims.

Died.] At Northampton, Mr. Jeremiah Rudfoll.

At Stanion Mill, Mr. Wm. Osborn, who had for several years retired from business, on the smallest stream, but, perhaps, with the largest property of any miller in the county.

At Oundle, in an advanced age, Mrs. Cook.

At King's Cliffe, aged 73, Mr. Robert Burton.

WARWICKSHIRE.

The frauds practised by the carriers of coals in the vicinity of Birmingham, have determined the overseers of the poor to issue instructions to the keeper of the weighing machine not to specify on the tickets which he issues, the weight of any waggon or cart, unless such waggon or cart has been previously

weighed empty, and duly registered in the town books.

Married.] At Birmingham, Mr. Thomas Rea, of London, to Miss Ann Wheeler, of the former place. And, on the same day, Mr. Wm. Rea, of London, brother of the above, to Miss Ann Wheeler, sister of the former bride.

Andrew Hewkett, jun. esq. of Moxhull-Park, to Miss Adderley, only daughter of Ralph Adderley, esq. of Coton, Staffordshire.

At Birmingham, Mr. T. Randall, to Miss Fleck. Mr. Christopher Schooley, of Pen-teride, to Miss Bannister, of the former town.

At Shustock, Mr. John Bush, to Miss Mary Boughey.

Died.] At Birmingham, Mrs. Netchell, of the Bull's Head. Mr. Josiah Rose. Mr. John Reynolds.

At Coventry, Miss H. Hervey.

Mr. Wm. Grove, of Penn-wood. This gentleman, some time since, very liberally presented a service of communion plate to the church of Penn.

Christopher Wren, esq. of Wroxhall.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

Married.] At Worcester, Mr. Humphrey Ruff, to Miss Warder. Mr. Jones, to Miss Lloyd.

Died.] At Bromsgrove, the Rev. John Best, vicar of Chaddesley Corbett, and master of the free school at Bromsgrove.

HEREFORDSHIRE.

To obviate the inconvenience arising to graziers and other dealers, from the want of a Fair being established at Ledbury, between Christmas and Easter, it has been resolved to hold an annual Fair, toll free, on the first Monday in February, for the sale of cattle, horses, sheep, pigs, and other commodities usually sold on such occasions.

Married.] At Knill, Samuel Romilly, esq. of Lincoln's-inn, to Miss Garbett, eldest daughter of Francis Garbett, esq. of Knill-court.

At Staunton upon Arrow, Mr. John Smith, farmer, to Miss Ann Davies.

Died.] At Berrington, on the 15th instant, in the 66th year of her age, the Hon. Mrs. Harley, Lady of the Right Hon. Thomas Harley.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

Married.] At Caldecott, Mr. Alexander Young, merchant, of London, to Miss Mary Wise, of the former place.

William Curre, esq. of Itton Hall, to Miss Bushby.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Married.] At Bristol, Mr. H. Hunt, to Miss Sixsmith, of Clifton. Mr. Wm. Thomas, exciseman, to Mrs. E. Poston. Mr. Nott, to Miss Perrin.

At the same place, Capt. Tornhill, of Ireland, to Miss Edwards, of Bath.

At Haresfield, George Monro, esq. to Miss Whitcombe, coheirs of Edw. Whitecombe, esq. of Orlett, Worcestershire.

At Tewkesbury, Mr. John Vaughan Barber, of Walsal, to Miss Elizabeth Wickes, daughter of the late rev. Dr. Wickes, of Tetbury.

At Berkeley, Mr. Ayland, of that town, to Miss Izard, of Tewkesbury.

At North Nibley, the rev. John Rogers, of Beaminster, Dorset, to Eliz. Long, of the former place.

At Painswick, Mr. Nath. Dimock, of Stonehouse, to Mrs. Blake, of Brownhill.

Died.] In College-Green, Bristol, the rev. Mr. Winter, of Lady Huntingdon's connexion. Mrs. Mary Concanen. Mrs. Arding. Mrs. Wilcox. Mr. Wm. Jenkins, late an eminent carpenter in this city. He had been severely afflicted with the gout for upwards of seven years. At the same place, Miss Sarah Wyfom. In Queen-square, in this city, Mr. Robert Salmon. Mr. Edwards. Mr. Pring. Mr. Richard Horsley. Mrs. Phillips, milliner in Redcliff-street. Mrs. Henley, wife of Mr. Richard Henley, clerk at the stamp-office. Aged 88, Ann Kestell. Mr. Thomas. At his house in Prince's-street, aged 80, Thomas Deane, esq. senior alderman of this city. His extensive mercantile concerns rendered him eminently useful to his fellow citizens.

At the Hot Wells, Miss Margaret Brooke, daughter of Mr. H. F. Brooke, of Bristol. Lord Lisle, of Ireland. Mr. Henry Morgan. Miss Penny.

At Clepton, after a long illness, Miss Elizabeth Morgan. General Sir John Dalling, K.B.

In Thornbury, suddenly, in an apoplectic fit, Mr. Jesse Cofsham.

At Gloucester, Mr. Charles Cole, formerly a mercer in that town, but who had retired from business. Miss P. Jones.

At Barnwood, in the 84th year of her age, Mrs. Molloy, sister of the late Henry Pye, esq. of Farringdon, Berks.

At Cleve-hill, near Bristol, Sir John Dalling, bart.

At Evesham, suddenly, Mrs. White, of the White Hart.

OXFORDSHIRE.

At Oxford, in her 72d year, Mrs. Pasco. Mr. Thomas Young, many years Collector of Excise in the Oxford District. Aged 33, Mrs. Winter. After a long and very painful illness, James Remett Stockford, Lieutenant of the Oxford Light Dragoons, and surgeon to the Regiment. Also Mr. Joseph Newnam.

In the 74th year of his age, the rev. Timothy Neeve, D. D. Rector of Gedding-ton, Prebendary of Worcester, and Margaret Professor of Divinity in the University of Oxford.

At Broadstone Hill, near Chipping Norton, Mrs. Cogan.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

Married.] At Milton, Mr. Wm. Ratliffe, to Miss Ellen Worley, second daughter of Mr. Worley, of Mear's Abbey, Northamptonshire.

HERTFORDSHIRE.

Married.] At Hinxworth, Mr. Thomas Russell, of Liddington, to Miss Williamson, of the former place.

At Fordham, Mr. Dobito, auctioneer, to Mrs. Redgrave, of Exning.

At Kempton, the rev. George Bell, to Miss Denbiggins, of Northampton.

Died.] At Watford, Mr. Thomas Greenhill.

At Hatfield, Dr. Francis Penrose, of Stonehouse, near Plymouth.

At Laurence End, Charles Hawkins, third son of Henry Hawkins, esq. of that place.

At Bishop's Stortford, aged 57, Mr. Edward Jones.

At Great Barfield, after a severe and lingering illness, Mrs. Clarke.

ESSEX.

The south-west corner of that venerable pile of antiquity, Great Waltham Church, has given way, and a considerable part of the fabric has, of consequence, fallen down. The cause of this sudden ruin is attributed to the weight of the bells, as it was first observed during the ringing a peal. If supporters had not been placed some time since, it is supposed the whole steeple would have participated in the fall.

Married.] The rev. David James, of Stamford le Hope, to Miss Browne, of Cripplegate Without.

At Ham, J. Pheil, esq. to Miss Harriot Bowman, of the Upper Terrace, Islington.

Died.] At Chelmsford, Mr. Charles Brown. Miss E. Cooper, daughter of the rev. M. Cooper, dissenting minister.

At Great Coggeshall, Mrs. Mary Brightwen, for many years a speaker in the Quakers' meeting-house in this town. Mrs. Anna Unwin.

At Braintree, Mr. Lambert, sen.

At Upminster, aged 75, T. London, esq.

At Colchester, Mr. Glandfield, plumber. Mrs. Leaver.

At Upton, Mrs. Brown, wife of Mr. Thomas Brown, of Gould-square.

At Boxted, aged 34, Mrs. Hooker, wife of the rev. Thomas Hooker, vicar of Rottingdeane, Suffex.

At Wormingford, aged 64, Mr. Crisp.

At Laytonstone, Mrs. Vezey.

NORFOLK.

The following memorial of the glorious naval action of the 14th of February, 1797, has been lately erected in the Council Chamber of the County Hall, at Norwich. An anchor, from the ring of which is suspended a yard and sail, supposed to be torn in action, on which is inscribed:—"The sword of the Spanish Admiral Don Xavier Winthuysen, who died of the wounds he received in an engagement with the British fleet, under the command of Admiral Earl St. Vincent, 14th of February, 1797, which action ended in the most brilliant victory ever obtained by this country over the enemy at sea; wherein the heroic valour and cool determined courage of Rear Admiral, Sir Horatio Nelson, K. B. had ample scope for display. He being a native of Norfolk, honoured the city by presenting this sword surrendered to him in that action."—The Sword is suspended from the flukes of the Anchor; underneath is the coat of arms of Sir Horatio.

Horatio Nelson, given to him by the King. The Crest is the stern of a man of war, and the supporters, a sailor bearing the British Lion, trampling on the Spanish colours. The Motto "Faith and Works."—The whole is neatly executed by Mr. Ninham, of Norwich.

From the report of a Special Meeting of the Commissioners, held under the Yarmouth Haven and Pier Act, on the 3d instant; it appears, that the sum of 29,000*l.* is necessary to put the same into proper repair. The concurrence of the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk, and of the Norwich Corporation, with the Borough of Great Yarmouth, being requisite towards an application to Parliament for that purpose, a meeting of the Norwich Corporation was summoned on the 16th, but postponed, to give a previous opportunity of consulting some skilful and experienced engineer, on the expediency and propriety of the measure.

Married.] At Norwich, Mr. Harvey, to Miss Smith.

At Yarmouth, the rev. Gibson Lucas, to Miss Salmon, daughter of the rev. B. W. Salmon, of Ormesby.

At Beccles, Lieutenant Hudson, of the Royal Navy, to Miss Catharine Mills.

At Cringleford, Mr. John Pope, of Wilton, to Miss Mary Barnes, of Newfound.

At Lynn, Richard Hamilton, esq. Captain of the Royal Artillery, to Miss Newman, only daughter of Mr. Charles Newman, of Lynn. Mr. Hanslip, to Miss Brooke.

At Difs, Mr. William Hey, silk-maufacturer, to Miss Theobald, of Bury.

Died.] At Norwich, in her 100th year, Mrs. Hilling. Mr. John Whitaker.

At Lynn, Mr. W. Wardell.

At Massingham, Mrs. Bewly, widow of the late Dr. Bewly.

At Attleborough, aged 67, Mr. Wm. Thorold, formerly an eminent butcher, but who had retired from business.

At Difs, in her 84th year, Mrs. Rodwell, of the Ship Inn.

At Norwich, Mr. Robert Sewter.

At Lynn, in his 75th year, Mrs. Pigge, relict of the late Mr. Thomas Pigge, of Rainham.

SUFFOLK.

Married.] At Bury, J. D. Cock, wine-merchant, to Miss Susan Pilchers.

At Shimpling, Marcus Corry, esq. Captain of the 5th Regiment of Dragoon Guards, to Miss Eliza Fiske, second daughter of the rev. John Fiske, of the said parish.

The rev. Mr. Howorth, master of the Grammar School at Needham, to Miss H. Fletcher, daughter of the rev. Mr. Fletcher, of Dedham.

Mr. Thomas Steel, of Debden, to Miss Bigg, of Stanstead.

Died.] At Bury, Mr. Thomas Robinson. Aged 83, Mr. Wm. Page. Aged 74, Mrs. Woolmer. In his 75th year, Mr. Sheen.

Aged 39, Mr. John Whitaker. Mr. J. Goodram, Public Librarian of this City. Also, aged 62, Mr. Robert Edwards, felon-monger.

At Clare, Mr. Robert Hawes, surgeon.

At Denton, aged 77, Mrs. Harmer.

At Little Livermere, in his 88th year, Mr. W. Adkins, 55 years parish clerk of Ampton.

At East Wilton, in her 76th year, Mrs. Alice Thomson.

At Elmstead Lodge, Mrs. Blagg, house-keeper to Mark Lay, esq.

At Potter Heigham, aged 32, Mr. Leonard Flaxman.

At Swaffham, in her 85th year, Mrs. Daltan. Aged 73, Mrs. Bewly.

At Lowestoft, Mrs. Howard.

At Norman Cross, near Stilton, Captain-Lieutenant and Adjutant Wm. Tapp, of the East Norfolk Militia.

SUSSEX.

A very large encampment is spoken of to be formed in the Eastern part of this county early in the spring. Vigorous preparations are making for the erection of barracks at Ringmer. The spot selected for this purpose is remarkably pleasant, airy, and adjoining to an excellent turnpike road.

Died.] At Ipswich, after a few hour's illness, Mrs. Christie, wife of Captain Christie, sen. of this town.

At Brightelmstone, aged 85, Mrs. Simon, relict of the late rev. Peter Simon, Rector of Whitkirk and Welston, in Yorkshire.

At Michelham, near Lewes, aged 91, Mr. Henry Child.

At Lewes, Miss Mary Madgwick.

At Strode, Mrs. Leland, wife of Lieut. General Leland, M. P.

At Ringmer, in the 84th year of his age, Mr. Henry Marten, Miller.

KENT.

A young woman, of the name of Carver, house-maid to Capt. R. Pearson, of Greenwich Hospital, proves to be the daughter of the late Capt. Carver, of great Transatlantic celebrity, who acquired a vast tract of country in the back settlements of America. This the Indians have faithfully guaranteed, and preserved for his legal representative, who is at length indisputably discovered in the person of the fortunate young woman above mentioned. The territory, in times of peace, is estimated at 100,000*l.*

A sentinel over his Majesty's stores at Farningham, lately shot himself through the head with his musket, by taking off his shoe and stocking from the right foot, and pushing the trigger with his toe.

Married.] At Dover, Mr. Pain, to Miss Sarah Tucker. Mr. King, surgeon, to Miss Francis Boyton.

At the parish church of Boxley, Samuel Bosanquet, jun. esq. of Forest House, Essex, to Miss Whatman, daughter of James Whatman, esq. of St. Vinter's, in this county.

At Canterbury, Mr. John Goldinch, to Miss Mary

Mary Cullen. Henry Godfrey Fauisset, esq. of Heppington, to Miss Nott, daughter of the late Fettiplace Nott, esq. of Mariton-Hall, in the county of Warwick. Mr. Richard Lester, to Miss Down. Mr. Wm. James, to Miss Larkins.

At Canterbury, Mr. John Eggier, to Mrs. S. Sharp. Mr. John Weeks, to Miss Margaret Pottifor.

Mr. Wm. Shipwright, of Deptford, aged 23, to Miss E. Driver, of East-lane, Bermondsey, aged 42.

At Blackheath, Mr. George Enderby, to Miss Sampson.

At Ashford, the rev. Stephen Long Jacob, Fellow of Worcester College, to Miss Bond, eldest daughter of the rev. James Bond, vicar of Ashford.

At Milton church, next Gravesend, T. March, esq. of Borden, to Miss P. Matson, of the former place.

At Smarden, Mr. Stephen Hoerck, to Miss Susannah Smith. Mr. Ishmael Gurr, to Miss Ann Pearson.

Lieutenant H. Weir, of the Navy, to Miss Philadelphia Wakeman.

Died.] At Canterbury, Mr. Evenden. Aged 75, Mr. Moses Levi. Mrs. Blunden. Mr. Wm. Flackton, a respectable bookseller of that town. Mr. Richard Boghurst, sen. Mr. Pierce. Mr. Stockford, surgeon of the Oxford Fencibles.

At the same place, Mr. Hodge, surveyor of Excise, in consequence of falling into the mash-tub of scalding wash, at Messrs. Bishop's distillery.

At Blackheath, the Lady of Capt. Patton. After a lingering illness, Wm. Allen, esq.

At her apartments in Greenwich Hospital, Mrs. Lobb, widow of the late Capt. Lobb, of the Royal Navy, and one of the Matrons of the Hospital.

At Northfleet, by a fall from the Chalk Cliff, Mr. Ward, of the Leather Bottle inn.

At Upper Delph's Farm, near St. Margaret's, Rochester. Mr. Richard Boghurst, sen. gentleman farmer.

At Whitstable, Mr. James Adley, sen. coal-merchant. Aged 45, Mr. James Canbourn.

At Chillham, aged 35, Mrs. White.

At Margate, after a long and painful illness, Mrs. Attwood.

At Deal, in child-bed of twins, Mrs. Barber. In her 81st year, Mrs. Mary Allen.

At Dover, Robert Colt, esq. of Auldame, brother-in-law to Henry Dundas, esq. Suddenly, in an apoplectic fit, Mrs. Atkins. Mr. Thomas Yearde, of the Customs. Mr. John Netherfole, attorney. Mr. Elias Worthington, boat-builder. Mr. Hugh Price, of the Three Kings public-house. Mrs. Goodwin.

At Folkestone, to which place he went for the recovery of his health, Wm. Collens, esq. Aged 54, Mrs. Rutton. In her 73d year, Mrs. Button.

At Deptling, aged 81, Mrs. Catt.

At Faversham, aged 56, Mr. George Cowland.

At Herne, aged 78, Mr. Charles Palsey. In his 67th year, Mr. Richard Torr. Mrs. Larkins.

At Woolwich, Mr. W. Groves, late master of the King's Head, Rochester, who was shot, some time since, in the head, by a gang of foot-pads.

At Greenwich, Mr. Thomas Cobham, many years a surgeon in the Royal Navy. The day previous to his decease, he had a party of friends to dine with him, and went to bed at night, at his usual hour, in perfect health, but was found dead in the morning. His death is supposed to have been occasioned by an apoplectic fit, or from a sudden attack of the gout in his stomach, to which he was very subject.

At Sandwich, Mrs. Emmerson, wife of Mr. Richard Emmerson, banker.

At Ashford, aged 93, Mr. Janneway.

SURREY.

Married.] At St. George's, Southwark, Mr. B. Hull, of Bermondsey, to Miss M. Hull, of Devizes.

At Lambeth Church, Mr. James Cortie, of the Nine Elms, to Mrs. E. Price, of South Lambeth.

At Reigate, Mr. T. Pickstone, to Miss Hoare, of the former place.

Died.] At Peckham, Richard Rayley, esq.

At Camberwell, Mr. Thomas Macgregor, of Messrs. Cox and Greenwood's Office.

At Botleys, in the parish of Chertsey, after a long illness, Miss Emily Mawbey, aged 18, youngest daughter of Sir Joseph Mawbey, Bart.

At Reigate, Mrs. Cooper, wife of Mr. James Cooper, of Swithin's-lane, merchant.

At Esher, suddenly, in an advanced age, John Wright, esq.

HAMPSHIRE.

Married.] At Winchester, Mr. Scott, brother-in-law to Lord Oxford, to Miss Ogle, daughter of the dean of Winchester, and sister-in-law to the celebrated Mr. Sheridan.

At Southampton, Leonard Wray, esq. to Miss M. Cornud, of Chelsea.

At Newton, John Gosling, esq. of Upper Fitzroy-street, to Miss E. Curtis Cherry, daughter of George Cherry, esq. Chairman of the Victualling Board.

Died.] At Southampton, suddenly, whilst on a visit to her brother, the master of the ceremonies at that place, the beautiful and accomplished Mrs. Thornhill. Also Major Lockhart Russell.

At Appleshaw, John Butcher, esq. a justice of peace for the county of Hants.

At Milford, near Lymington, aged 41, Mr. John Jennins.

On Milford Hill, Mr. Wm. Whitlock, cheesemonger. He was a man of a very singular turn of mind, and, for these last seven years, kept a coffin in his bedchamber. Pursuant to the express directions of his will, his corpse was conveyed to Pitton, his native village, in a waggon, followed by two mourning coaches.

At Arlesford, on his way to Winchester, to vote at a contested election of freemen, Mr. Oliver Beckett.

At Hawyard Farm, Stratfieldsay, after a short illness, Mr. Wm. Tubb, aged 47.

At Fareham, in her 84th year, Mrs. Kinchin.

At Chelbolton, Mr. John Tredgold.

At Christchurch, in the prime of life, Miss Lucy Jeans, eldest daughter of Dr. Jeans.

At an advanced age, Mr. John Foote, many years master of the free school at Tytherlay.

BERKSHIRE.

Died.] At Reading, after a lingering illness, Mr. Hannington, of the Wheat Sheaf inn. Aged 71. Mr. Bartlett. In her 83d year, Mrs. Willis. Mr. Hornblow.

At Burghfield suddenly, Col. Robert Blane.

At Abingdon, Mr. Thomas Kendall, who regularly, in his line of business, made the circuit of England twice a year, for a series of years.

At Harehatch, near Maidenhead, Mr. John Young.

At Mongewell, after a short illness, in his 24th year, Mr. Wm. Hulcup.

At Windsor Castle, suddenly, Mrs. Corbyn. She dropped down in an apoplectic fit, as she was walking after dinner, and expired immediately.

WILTSHIRE.

The Duke of Marlborough, according to annual custom, gave, on the 6th inst. a donation of seven fat oxen, and an adequate proportion of bread, to be distributed among the poor in the neighbourhood of Blenheim.

Married.] At Bowood Park, Robt. Smith, esq. to Miss Vernon.

Died.] At Salisbury, after a severe and lingering illness, Mr. Brownjohn.

At Ramsbury, Mrs. Clitty, of the Bell Inn.

At Yeovil, Onesiphorus Worry, esq.

At Sopworth House, in her 12th year, Miss Hardwicke, only daughter of the rev. Dr. Hardwicke, Rector of Sopworth.

At Dean, in her 42d year, Miss Mary Lynch, one of the Nuns, at Dean's Mansion House.

At Swindon, Master Henry Goddard, youngest son of Ambrose Goddard, esq. one of the Representatives for Wilts.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

Married.] At Bath, the rev. James Bretherton, to Miss Ponting. Pascoe Grenfell, esq. of Taplow, in the county of Bucks, to the Hon. Georgina Sentleger, sister of the present Lord Viscount Doneraile. Also Mr. Crumpton, of the Theatre, to Miss Ann Cottel, daughter of the late Mr. J. Cottel, pumper at the Hot Bath. Mr. John Penny, to Miss Mary Ann Howell.

At Lindisham, the rev. Mr. Hodge, of Glastonbury, to Mrs. Lane, of the former place.

Died.] At Bath, in his 61st year, Knight Mitchell, esq. a gentleman of large property in Cambridgeshire. Mr. Lydeard, plumber. Mr. Richard Egan, aged 85. Mrs. Purdie, mother of Mrs. Pritchard, of the Parade Coffee-house. Mr. Oakley. Lady Deane. Miss Anderdon. George Core, esq. Anthony

Chapman, esq. of Tarrant Gunville, Dorset. Mr. Happerfield. Mrs. Trottmann.

At Wells, the rev. T. Payne, A. M. one of the Canons Residentiary of the Cathedral Church, Rector of Langattock, and brother to the Countess Dowager of Northampton, and Lady Frances Seymour.

At Honiton, Miss Ann Sweeting.

At Downend, Mr. Wm. Emmett.

The rev. Mr. Hawes, many years Curate of Box, near Bath.

Near Bath, in an advanced age, Mr. Muspratt.

By the bursting of a blood vessel, Mrs. Jennings, of Hooper's-court, near Walcot Church, Bath.

At Widcomb, unlamented by a single fellow-creature, Jacob Ifgar, of notorious memory, who has long been a terror to the poor and distressed inhabitants of Widcomb, and its neighbourhood. Ifgar was deeply implicated in the transactions relative to the will forged by Sir John Briggs, and only got clear by turning evidence. His wife, who was subpœnaed in his behalf on that trial, died the day previous to its coming on. Since that period he has lost five children out of six.

At the same place, Mrs. Mary House.

At Long Ashton, in an advanced age, Mrs. Collinson, mother of the late rev. John Collinson, Vicar of that parish.

At Yatton, Mrs. Young.

At Glastonbury, in her 77th year, Mrs. Bond: She had a presentiment of her decease, and went, in consequence, to take leave of her children and grand-children, 91 in number.

At Worle, Mrs. Wollan.

At Godney Farm, near Glastonbury, Mr. Comer, grazier.

At Wincanton, aged 68, Mr. Deane.

DORSETSHIRE.

A supply of fresh water from the Boiling Rock, for the accommodation of the inhabitants of Weymouth, is already brought within the turnpike gate of that town, which stood in great need of this indispensable necessary of life.

Married.] At Dorchester, Mr. John Tapp, jun. to Miss Stickland.

At Blandford, James Randolph, esq. of Bath, to Miss K. St. Barbe, of Landisdown Crescent, Bath.

Died.] At Weymouth, Mr. Lonnon, master of the Bear inn; and, a few days after, Master Sherry, his son-in-law.

DEVONSHIRE.

The rev. John Kidd, a clergyman, in the North of Devon, was lately reduced to such great distress, as to solicit relief by public subscription. He had a wife and five infant children, whom he had long supported on the scanty pittance of his curacy; and his character appearing to be unblemished, the subscription was liberally supported by the superior clergy and gentry of his diocese. The Bishop of Exeter, greatly to his honour, without any other knowledge of this worthy man, than what arose from these public circumstances,

stances, has now crowned his good fortune, by bestowing on him the Vicarage of Coleridge, near Chumleigh, worth 100l. per annum.

Three large barrels of counterfeit brass and copper coin, imported from Bristol, have been lately seized at Barnstaple by the officers of the Customs.

Married.] At Exeter, Mr. White, carpet-manufacturer, to Miss Wireston. Mr. A. Tozer, linen-draper, to Miss Pickard.

At Barnstaple, Lieut. Paddon, of the 20th Regiment of Foot, to Miss Chappel.

Died.] At Exeter, aged 73, Mr. Thomas Balle. Miss White. Mrs. Bais. Mrs. Daw.

At Whitestone, near Exeter, aged 68, Mrs. Mary Holman.

At Dawlish, in his 25th year, Mr. Thomas Palmer.

At Farringdon, Mrs. Cholwick, wife of John Burridge Cholwick, esq. and daughter of the late, and sister of the present Sir John Duntze, bart.

CORNWALL.

Married] At Falmouth, Mr. James Coad, to Miss Bryant.

At Flushing, Mr. Samuel O'Brien, to Miss Mary Paddy.

Died.] At Flushing near Falmouth, Mr. John Williams, of the Customs.

At Helstone, Mrs. Mary Robinson, a maiden lady, daughter of the rev. Wm. Robinson, and grand daughter of the late Sir Richard Vyvyan, bart.

WALES.

Married.] At Pembroke, the rev. John Holcombe, of Chosheston, to Miss Roberts, daughter of Capt. Roberts. At same place, Mr. Webb, of Greenhill, to Miss Thomas, of Corstyn. Mr. Foxcroft, of Nottingham, to Miss Bowling, of Pembroke. At Cardigan, Mr. Howell Williams, of Tenby, to Miss Phillips.

At Cardiff, Robert Clutterbuck, esq. of Watford, Herts, to Miss Capper, eldest daughter of Colonel Capper.

Died.] At St. Petroch's, Mrs. Pritchard, wife of the rev. Mr. Pritchard.

At Beaumaris, in his 78th year, William Lewis, esq. of Llandynfon, Father of the Corporation of Anglesea.

IRELAND.

Died.] November 18, Mrs. Edgeworth, wife of Mr. Edgeworth, of Edgeworth's Town, in the county of Longford; a most amiable and universally beloved, and much lamented woman.

SCOTLAND.

Died.] At Cambree House, Fifeshire, Sir John Sinclair, bart. of Longformacus.

At Edinburgh, Mr. James Gordon, Principal Accomptant to the British Linen Bank, established under Royal Charter for the encouragement of the linen manufacture in Scotland.

At the same place, aged 72, Charles Stewart, esq. formerly Surveyor-General in North America.

At Middleton, near Edinburgh, Robert Hepburn, esq. of Clerkington, one of the Commissioners of the Honourable Board of Customs for Scotland.

At Forres, in Scotland, Baillie Thomas Eddie, Chief Magistrate of that Borough.

At Balcargine, at the extraordinary age of 108, John Mac Gregor. He was born in the year of the battle of Killcrankie, and ended his life on the anniversary of his birth, Christmas-day, old stile, 1797. He was present at the battle of Sherrifmuir, and afterwards served in the Scotch Brigade, in Holland. He lived in the service of the family of Balcargine upwards of 50 years; retained his faculties to the very last; and, till the preceding year, walked frequently about.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR JANUARY, 1798.

THE mild state of the weather in the latter part of the present month, has been highly favourable for the purposes of the practical farmer, and much business has consequently been done, especially in the more northern parts of the Island. In places where the nature of the soils would admit, some farmers have begun to fallow the turnip grounds for the next crop, and others are plowing the grounds from which the turnips have lately been eaten off, as a preparation for barley. The fields in general look green, and winter corn has for the most part a promising appearance, but this is not by any means the most dangerous month for them.

GRAIN. The markets for all sorts of grain are on the whole rather dull, but more particularly so for oats, beans, and pease.

The average price of wheat throughout England and Wales, was, on the 20th of January, 51s. 5d. and of barley, 28s. 10d.

MEAT. Butchers meat continues to hold its price, or perhaps is rather on the rise.

Beef on the last market day fetched from 3s. to 4s. 2d. and mutton from 3s. 8d. to 4s. 6d.

HOPS. These are also getting higher.

The prices of Kentish Hops vary between 70s. and 105s. for bags, and 80s. to 120s. for pockets.

... THE ENQUIRER will be resumed again in a month or two, as will the articles from the Peruvian Mercury. Communications of Biographical Anecdotes of persons recently deceased, are always acceptable.